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Vol. 3 Issue 1

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Minden's Jake Walker Canadian Champion



From left: Skip Jake Walker, Third Craig Van Ymeren, Second Geoff Chambers, and Lead Matt Mapletoft

Michael Burns
 Photography
 Canadian Curling Association

Health Services Dollars Crunch

Is Outsourcing On the Way?

By Stephen Patrick, Editor

"Why Should They Profit From Our Loss?"

Next Monday, February 1st, the Booth Centennial Health Care Linen Services company will be paying a visit to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services sites. In a memo to HHHS staff, President and CEO Paul Rosebush states that the Booth representatives will be on site "to review our Laundry Services processes. Booth Centennial is an expert in the field of Hospital Laundry Services and has been requested to make recommendations on options to assist HHHS to become more efficient in this area."

HHHS staff has been requested to assist Booth in what management has described simply as a 'consultation'. But to some dietary and housekeeping staff members

Health Services cont'd... pg.2...

Will Take on the World in Switzerland in March

By Stephen Patrick, Editor

So what was going through your mind, Jake Walker, in the final end, when your last rock could seal a Canadian Junior Curling Championship and send your rink to the All Worlds in Switzerland in a month?

"When I'm in situations that are critical, I focus entirely on the shot, I visualize it completely, but I never focus on the outcome. But it takes years of experience to know how to react in those crucial moments," Jake told the Voice. "You have to wipe the idea of a result from your mind. And I'm lucky in that I've been in those situations a lot in my curling career. But yeah, it was certainly tense all right, down to the wire."

Jake and his rink curl out of Kitchener's Westmount Curling Club: they beat Team Manitoba on Sunday 8-7 to become Canadian Junior Champions, with the right to go to the worlds in early March. "We have a lot of work, and a lot of preparation to do before we get there. But what a thrill, to be Canadian champions."

The match was tight and tense throughout. In an early end, Coach John Thompson called a time-out and after some consultation called for Jake to make a shot Jake was clearly unhappy with. TSN commentator, and former World, Brier, and Olympic Champion Russ Howard immediately harshly criticized the coach's shot selection. TSN's Vic Rauter pointed out that in Junior play, the Coach's instructions override a Skip's personal decision. And in that particular end the Manitoba rink ended up scoring two to take the lead.

"We talked about the decision afterwards," Jake told the Voice, "and John said that when he called the time out and made the shot decision he was looking at the ice from a bad angle, and agreed that it was the wrong call. But we're a close team, and we get over those things." In an

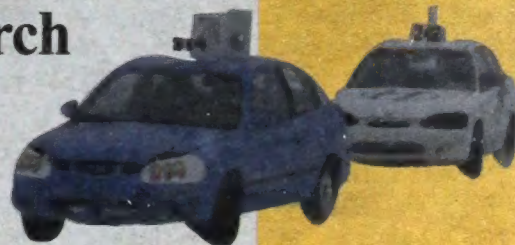
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High Water Levels Prompt Warning From Health Unit: Well Owners May Need to Boil Water If Wells Become Submerged

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit is urging caution for local residents who may be affected by flooding.

Heavy rain and melting snow are causing river and lake levels to rise in parts of Haliburton County, the City of Kawartha Lakes and Northumberland County. As a result, the local Health Unit warns that drinking water quality may be affected for residents in low-lying areas who rely on private wells or who draw surface water. According to the Health Unit:

People who rely on private wells should be aware that their drinking water supply could become contaminated if the well head is or has been submerged under water.

Residents who draw surface water from lakes or streams without using a disinfectant unit are at particular risk. However,

even those with a disinfectant unit should note that these systems could become overwhelmed by the higher water flows, also resulting in contamination.

In all cases, the Health Unit urges people to use bottled water or boil their water to a rolling boil before drinking. Water should be brought to a rolling boil for one minute, then cooled before drinking.

"Given the present conditions, we think it's best to err on the side of caution, and that is why we are issuing this advisory," says Anne Alexander, Director of Environmental Health with the HKPR District Health Unit.

This boil water precaution should continue until residents can get their water tested through the Health Unit and receive back a satisfactory result. Samples should not be taken, however, until

water levels recede. Water testing bottles and kits can be picked up at any local Health Unit office. Drop-off times and locations are available at www.hkpr.on.ca under the 'What's New' section. You can also call the Health Unit at 1-866-888-4577 for more information. The water testing service is free to local residents. The Health Unit will forward the samples to the provincial lab in Peterborough, which then tests the water and reports results to the resident.

For those who rely on private septic systems, the Health Unit is also reminding local residents to note that excess water could cause their septic systems to malfunction. People should limit the use of their septic systems to prevent overloading and check after water levels subside for any malfunction. ■

Festival of Banners Taking Submissions

By Zoe Cittern

The Minden Hills Festival of Banners is back again for another season and is welcoming submissions. The colourful and creative banners which are hung around town from the end of May until Thanksgiving will be on display for the fourth consecutive year: the banners were originally an idea which was proposed by a group of individuals who wanted to see the revitalisation of Minden.

Festival Chair Deborah Lyons, owner of Organic Times, says "the idea of banners kept coming up amongst everybody, we wanted people to hand paint them though and for them not to be made commercially. We looked to inspiration from the town of Nanaimo who had been doing their own festival of banners for a number of years, they sent an instruction guide and we went from there."

Deborah adds that "it's been very well received; people who are from out of town and locals have been so happy with them, we get compliments for them all the time. The great thing is you don't have to be an artist either, once you have a maquette which is a miniature of the proposed design that gets projected onto the banner so it becomes like paint by numbers. It normally takes the painter three days to finish the banner." There are 40 adult banners which are 6ft by 3ft and the banners are hung on Main Street in Minden and on a portion of Highway 35 that passes the village. Last year the banners were painted with a multitude of differing designs from nature to wildlife to scenery.

Since there is restricted space in which to hang the banners a selection committee will make the final decision over which banners will be completed. There are two categories; adult and child which is up to grade eight. Last year the banners were auctioned off which is their major fundraiser and this year they will do the same, the designs from the banners were also made into note cards. Deborah explains that "every penny we receive goes back into the banners for the next year and the supply costs; we supply everything from the banners to the artist materials. Costs can be as much as \$5,000 for a project of this size."

Sue Bennett's banner titled 'Minden's First Settler Meets Local Resident' was hailed as the public's favourite banner in October and she says "I was honoured to have been chosen. Last season there were so many wonderful banners worthy of that recognition." She has already started work on a design for the forthcoming season and the theme 'wild and whimsical' will lend itself to an array of possibilities. Sue adds that "it's a great opportunity for people to find their artistic side and share it with the community."

An information kit which outlines the requirements and expectations is available to help participants through the process. A \$5 fee is charged per adult submission to cover costs, there are no costs for the child category. The deadline for submissions is February 27th. The kits can be picked up from the Organic Times in Minden, 134 Bobcaygeon Road. You can also request to have the package emailed to you by contacting the Festival of Banners at kevker@sympatico.ca or you can call 705-286-1424. ■

Health Services Dollars Crunch

... from pg. 1



who contacted the Voice, it seems more like management is laying the groundwork to outsource laundry services, which they assume would have a direct impact on their jobs. "Booth is not a consulting firm," one staff member commented. "This is a company that wants our business - they're not coming here to help us, they're coming to take our jobs. They want HHHS to outsource our work. And why

should they profit from our loss? This is a community hospital, built with the help and money of everyone

in this community. Why should our jobs go to someone in Mississauga?"

The employee, who understandably wished to remain anonymous, went on to say how committed staff members were to helping the HHHS save money, and said for sure there could be better time management, for example. The laundry, dietary, and housekeeping services are shared among a number of employees.

When contacted by the Voice, Paul Rosebush said that indeed the purpose of the Booth Centennial visit was to see if there were monies to be saved by using Booth's services. "We are in a situation where we are obligated to examine potential cost savings from a variety of different angles. We are the only Health Services Corporation in the Central Ontario LHIN that does not use Booth Centennial; and we want the benefit of their experience to see what our options are.

"We have an accountability agreement with the Ministry of Health, through the LHIN, to explore all avenues and options that will keep the HHHS on budget. And we'll have to balance savings with the implications they might have on staffing.

"But I want to assure the staff that our goal is not to see any employee displaced: the human impact of any potential change is very critical to us. We have options that could minimize or eliminate any displacement. But we simply must explore other ways to do business."

It's difficult to see how outsourcing the two hospitals laundry services could not have some staff impact, but this is the kind of quandary the HHHS is faced with as it struggles to balance its mandate with its available funds. The issue has been a difficult one for the staff: "We want to help," said one staff member, "and we think we can. But not at the price of our jobs. And we might not lose our jobs, but we'll sure lose a lot of hours." ■

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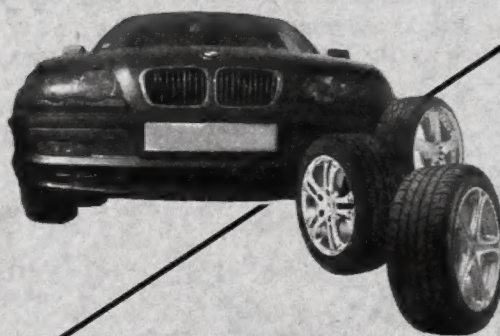
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THURSDAY



Cold with scattered snow showers and flurries
▲ -10° ▼ -16°

FRIDAY



Partly cloudy and very cold
▲ -12° ▼ -21°

SATURDAY



Increasing clouds and continued cold
▲ -8° ▼ -13°

SUNDAY



Cloudy with a chance of flurries
▲ -10° ▼ -16°

MONDAY



Mostly cloudy and seasonable
▲ -7° ▼ -13°

TUESDAY



Cloudy with light snow likely
▲ -4° ▼ -11°

WEDNESDAY



Morning snow showers, then P.M. flurries
▲ -9° ▼ -14°

AROUND THE REGION: Cold today with a chance of snow showers and flurries. Highs near 10 below. Clouds will be on the decrease tonight. Lows in the teens below zero. A mix of sun and clouds will be seen on Friday. Highs in the low teens below zero. Increasing clouds on Saturday. Highs in the upper single digits below zero.

Your Unofficial Lotto Numbers



23-Jan-2010

29 35 36 38 41 43

BONUS 47



2593427



22-Jan-2010

17 26 30 32 34 39 41

BONUS 49



7399000

TROPICAL CITIES

City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk	City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk
Acapulco	29/19/pc	29/21/pc	31/26/cl	Montego Bay	27/21/pc	27/21/pc	32/27/su
Antigua	27/22/su	27/22/su	31/26/su	Nassau	24/17/su	26/19/su	31/28/sh
Barbados	29/23/ts	28/23/pc	31/27/ra	Port au Prince	31/21/pc	30/19/su	33/26/cl
Bermuda	18/14/su	19/15/pc	31/26/sh	Puerto Vallarta	28/18/su	28/19/su	29/23/na
Cancun	25/18/pc	26/19/sh	32/26/na	St Thomas	26/21/pc	27/22/su	28/23/pc
Curacao	30/23/ts	30/24/ts	31/24/ts	St Maarten	26/21/su	27/22/su	31/27/su
Freeport	22/15/su	24/18/su	33/28/su	San Jose, CR	28/19/pc	28/20/pc	31/21/ra
Georgetown	30/23/pc	30/23/pc	31/23/ts	San Juan	27/20/su	27/21/su	28/22/su
Havana	26/18/su	26/17/pc	34/24/su	San Salvador	31/20/pc	32/21/pc	32/22/su
Key West	22/17/su	23/18/pc	26/18/sh	Santo Domingo	31/19/su	29/18/su	33/26/su
Kingston	28/23/pc	28/23/su	33/32/su	Trinidad	31/23/ts	30/23/ts	32/27/ra

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk	Sunday HI/Lo/Otk	Monday HI/Lo/Otk	Tuesday HI/Lo/Otk	Wednesday HI/Lo/Otk
Bancroft	-10/-16/sf	-12/-21/pc	-8/-13/cl	-10/-16/sn	-7/-13/sn	-4/-11/sn	-9/-14/sn
Barrie	-9/-16/sf	-11/-20/pc	-8/-13/cl	-9/-15/sn	-6/-12/sn	-4/-10/sn	-8/-14/sn
Dorset	-10/-17/sf	-12/-21/pc	-8/-13/cl	-10/-16/sn	-7/-13/sn	-4/-11/sn	-9/-15/sn
Haliburton	-10/-16/pc	-12/-21/pc	-8/-13/cl	-10/-16/sn	-7/-13/sn	-4/-11/sn	-9/-14/sn
Huntsville	-10/-17/sf	-12/-21/pc	-8/-13/cl	-10/-16/sn	-7/-13/sn	-4/-11/sn	-9/-15/sn
Kingston	-9/-15/sf	-9/-19/pc	-6/-11/cl	-8/-14/sn	-4/-11/sn	-3/-9/sn	-7/-12/sn
Lindsay	-9/-16/sf	-11/-19/pc	-8/-13/cl	-10/-15/sn	-6/-12/sn	-4/-10/sn	-8/-14/sn
Minden	-10/-16/sf	-12/-21/pc	-8/-13/cl	-10/-16/sn	-7/-13/sn	-4/-11/sn	-9/-14/sn
Oshawa	-9/-15/sf	-9/-19/pc	-6/-11/cl	-7/-14/sn	-4/-10/sn	-3/-9/sn	-6/-12/sn
Ottawa	-8/-15/sf	-12/-22/pc	-8/-13/sf	-9/-17/sn	-6/-13/sn	-4/-12/sn	-8/-14/sn
Toronto	-9/-15/sf	-9/-19/pc	-6/-11/cl	-7/-14/sn	-4/-10/sn	-3/-9/sn	-6/-11/sn

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk	Sunday HI/Lo/Otk	Monday HI/Lo/Otk	Tuesday HI/Lo/Otk	Wednesday HI/Lo/Otk
Calgary	-5/-13/sf	-3/-9/cl	-5/-9/sf	-6/-11/cl	-7/-13/cl	-9/-15/sf	-8/-14/sf
Edmonton	-9/-17/pc	-6/-12/cl	-7/-17/sf	-9/-19/sf	-14/-24/sf	-17/-28/sf	-19/-30/sf
Fredericton	-5/-12/sf	-10/-21/cl	-3/-11/sf	-4/-13/sn	-3/-11/sn	-1/-9/sn	-1/-11/sn
Halifax	-2/-8/sf	-7/-16/pc	0/-7/mx	-2/-9/sf	0/-7/pc	1/-4/cl	2/-6/mx
Montreal	-8/-14/sf	-13/-23/cl	-7/-13/sf	-10/-17/sn	-6/-12/sn	-4/-11/sn	-8/-14/sn
Regina	-13/-22/su	-4/-13/pc	-2/-11/cl	-4/-13/cl	-7/-15/cl	-9/-18/sf	-9/-17/cl
St. John's	-2/-8/sf	-9/-13/sf	-2/-8/sf	-2/-9/sn	-3/-9/sn	-2/-8/cl	0/-4/sn
Saskatoon	-14/-23/su	-5/-13/pc	-6/-13/sf	-8/-18/sf	-11/-21/sf	-14/-22/sf	-16/-26/sf
Vancouver	9/6/sh	9/7/ra	8/7/ra	11/6/ra	12/6/ra	12/6/pc	12/7/sh
Whitehorse	-10/-15/sf	-9/-14/cl	-8/-14/sn	-9/-15/sn	-10/-16/sn	-10/-16/cl	-9/-15/sn
Winnipeg	-16/-24/pc	-10/-16/pc	-2/-11/pc	0/-8/pc	-1/-10/pc	-6/-14/cl	-8/-18/cl

AREA ALMANAC

Last seven days	High	Low	Prec.
Monday 1/25	5°C	-2°C	6.7 mm
Sunday 1/24	3°C	-9°C	3.6 mm
Saturday 1/23	-1°C	-18°C	0.0 mm
Friday 1/22	0°C	-19°C	0.0 mm
Thursday 1/21	-1°C	-18°C	0.0 mm
Wednesday 1/20	-4°C	-14°C	0.5 mm
Tuesday 1/19	-1°C	-4°C	3.3 mm

Readings from Haliburton/Stanhope Airport
www.stanhopeairport.com



Forecasts, graphs and data
provided by Weather Central,
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SUN & MOON

	Sunrise/set	Moonrise/set
Thu.	7:38 a.m./5:16 p.m.	3:28 p.m./6:23 a.m.
Fri.	7:37 a.m./5:18 p.m.	4:52 p.m./7:05 a.m.
Sat.	7:36 a.m./5:19 p.m.	6:16 p.m./7:39 a.m.
Sun.	7:35 a.m./5:20 p.m.	7:39 p.m./8:08 a.m.
Mon.	7:34 a.m./5:22 p.m.	8:58 p.m./8:33 a.m.
Tues.	7:33 a.m./5:23 p.m.	10:16 p.m./8:57 a.m.
Wed.	7:32 a.m./5:25 p.m.	11:32 p.m./9:21 a.m.

Full	Last	New	First
Jan. 30	Feb. 5	Feb. 13	Feb. 21

Minden Hills Snowmobile Bridge Installed

Thanks to contributions from the Minden Hills Riverwalk fund and the co-operation of the Haliburton County Snowmobile Association the long-awaited Snow Bridge was finally installed over the Gull River in Minden last week. ■



Photos above and below by Garry Handlen



On the Move through Minden

Rolling out the Carpet



Photo by Stephen Patrick

New Bridge for Sledgers



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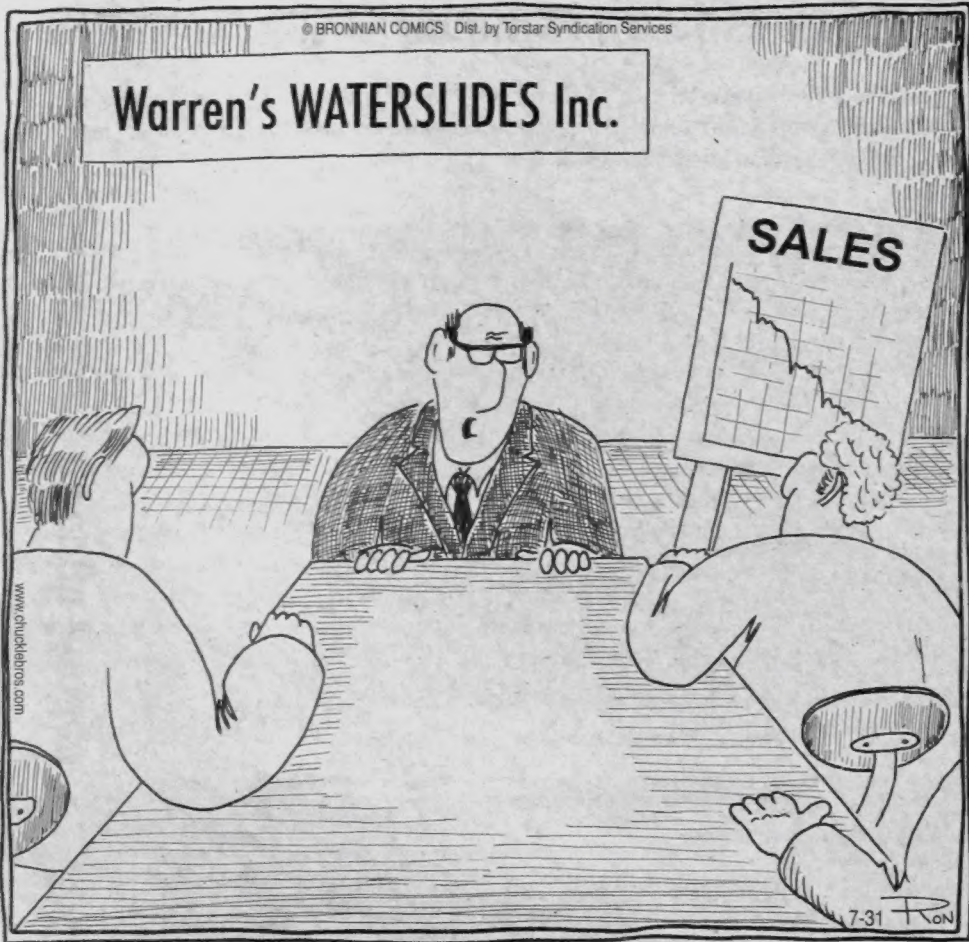
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"As most of you are no doubt aware, our business is going down the tubes."

Letter of the Week

Dear Editor:

"How is a huge unnecessary fire hall going to provide better medical attention?"

Finally my letters to the editor have been confirmed! Even Highlands East CAO has stated we will be \$153,000 dollars short of the funds provided last year from the Province and the 2010 budget would be seriously impacted. She also stated that she had concern next year would be even worse. Basically the point I was trying to get across even though I am not a CAO; I am a realist.

Now the ongoing fire hall issue has taken yet another turn, two instead of one. Reeve Burton is pushing for a new 80 x 100 foot fire hall. Think about it - that's 8000 square feet. How irrational is that! Reeve Burton this is the Municipality of Highlands East not Toronto so forget about building your own little empire. You are suppose to work for and with the ratepayers and citizens not to serve your own personal agenda. The CAO stated a new fire hall would provide more space for an ambulance. We don't have an ambulance.

There are first response vehicles in every fire hall to serve our needs. How is a huge unnecessary fire hall going to provide better medical attention? That is provided by our Volunteer Fire Fighters. As far as better insurance rates try to explain this to those households who would live further than eight miles from the unwanted and unnecessary new fire hall. Their insurance rates would sky rocket. Why make such households suffer just to build a few egos.

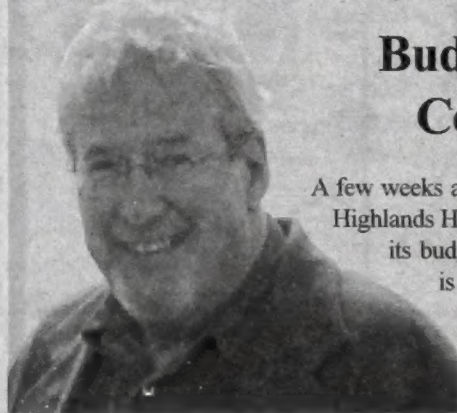
There is an "estimated" cost and I mean "estimated" of \$1,000,000 for a so called new fire hall. As ratepayers we will have to contribute \$100,000 (10 percent) of the total cost as long as there was no cost over runs. Instead of throwing money out the window and selling us down that proverbial river why not do a cost analysis as to how much money it would take to repair the existing fire halls? We inherited the additional fire halls via amalgamation so why should people suffer from something that the Provincial government forced on us? Our goal should be providing and maintaining protection to persons and property, not putting this at risk by eliminating fire halls for a new over zealous elaborate palace. By re-aligning our existing fire halls and prioritizing which ones require the utmost attention a plan can be put in place to upgrade the halls to meet the necessary criteria. In my opinion the consultant's report is too convoluted.

Letter cont'd... pg. 5

Editorial VIEWPOINT

By Stephen Patrick

Budgets, Balance, and Community Values



A few weeks ago we wrote about the Catch 22 the Haliburton Highlands Health Services faces when it tries to manage both its budgets and its responsibilities. In brief, the HHHS is mandated to provide certain services: it's also required, legally, to balance its budgets. When the funds can't meet the requirements, it's up to the HHHS Board and staff to find a solution, not the government. And borrowing, for example, or running a deficit, isn't allowed

either.

No one in the private sector, either small business or larger company, could run their affairs this way. Nor could most of us cope in our own private lives: buy a house without a mortgage? With a lottery win, maybe.

But as we report on Page one of this issue, these fiscal and operational restraints are beginning to force the HHHS to take steps that will inevitably prove difficult for many in the wider community that has shown it so much heartfelt support over the years. It may be that Booth Centennial, a linen cleaning service company based in Mississauga, can do our two hospitals' laundry properly and for less money than can our local workers (although some staff will forcefully dispute that). However, the HHHS is truly a creation of the entire Haliburton County community, which takes great pride in its success, along with a measured tolerance of the occasional problem or failure. This pride, and relationship, is also held close by the thousands of seasonal visitors who use our facilities, (and contribute mightily to our economy, the HHHS, and our tax base) at various times of the year.

The other contentious question is whether or not outsourcing has proven to be a smart solution in the long run for health care facilities anyway. The HHHS Board would do well to read carefully the Book of Kings: they'll certainly find more solutions there than at Queen's Park.

Haitian Relief and the Kindness of Canadians

As evidenced in our Vox Pop on Page 11 of this issue, the tragic earthquake in Haiti appears to have genuinely caught the imagination of Canadians in a powerful and important way. As an example, check out the obits in any of the major papers: since the event there have been a significant number of requests to donate to a Haitian charity of your choice. Which means the horror and pathos of the Haitian experience has resonated to an amazing degree when the dying, or their families, make such last-minute changes to their loved ones' wishes. Canada, its citizens and government, have made a significant contribution to the relief effort both in dollars and by leadership and example. For once, Prime Minister Stephen Harper and his advisors have sensed a political mood that is positive and compassionate in nature, and have acted upon it. The Haitian community in Quebec is well-entrenched and active: our Governor General is but one example of its influence. The larger questions of just how Haitian society will be rebuilt, and in what form remain of course. Haiti's history will not go away, nor should it: but we all truly hope that out of this pit of despair and death some lasting good news will come.

Congratulations Jake Walker

Jake Walker's magnificent run to the Canadian Junior Curling Championship is inspiring and heart warming, to say the least. And some credit must be due to the many local curlers and teachers in the Haliburton, Minden, and Wilberforce clubs and schools who during the 1980s and 1990s began systematically to bring kids into the curling rinks. We now have more than a handful of world-class junior curlers out on the various circuits, making their mark, and perhaps it won't be long before a Haliburtonian joins the ranks of the Keith Martins of the world. And the best of luck to Jake as he takes on the world in Switzerland in a few weeks time. ■

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More Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

"Could you please print a correction in the next issue?"

I just wanted to say thanks for the excellent story and the great pictures. I very much enjoyed reading it and have picked up extra copies for friends.

There was one problem though, the phone number that was included at the end is not my number and it is a misprint. Could you please print a correction in the next issue? If anyone would like to contact me about potential training trails or for information about goose control, I can be reached at 286-2257 (not 286-2557) I can also be emailed at info@racingrescues.com or info@goodbyegeese.com

Thank you so much, Gail Perrin ■



Police Reports

Impaired Driver

Officers from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment have charged a male with impaired driving after stopping a vehicle near Dorset this past weekend.

On Saturday January 23 just before midnight an officer was on patrol when he had occasion to stop a vehicle near Dorset in the Township of Algonquin Highlands. The officer had conversation with the driver who was subsequently arrested and taken to the Haliburton Highlands Detachment.

Theodore Deboer 46 years of Algonquin Highlands has been charged with Impaired Driving, Driving Over 80mgs, Driving while Disqualified and numerous Provincial Offences Act violations.

Mr. Deboer was held in custody pending a bail hearing. ■

Two Males Charged with Over 80

(Bancroft, ON.) – On the evening of Friday the 22nd of January 2010 Officers from the Bancroft detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police responded to the report of a single motor vehicle collision on Highway 28 in the Town of Bancroft, Ontario. Investigation revealed that a Chevrolet car slid into the ditch. While speaking to the adult male driver, the Officer detected the odour of an alcoholic beverage. The male failed a roadside screening test, was arrested and transported to the Bancroft OPP detachment for an intoxilyzer test. 21 year old Zachary Malloy of Bancroft, Ontario has been charged with operate motor vehicle with over 80 milligrams of alcohol in his blood, contrary to the Criminal Code of Canada. Mr. Malloy was released from custody and is scheduled to appear in Bancroft court on the 23rd of February 2010.

On Sunday the 24th of January 2010 an Officer from the Bancroft OPP was investigating an incident on McGarry Road in the Municipality of Hastings Highlands. During the investigation, an Arctic Cat snowmobile entered a driveway. The adult male driver was arrested for impaired operation and transported to the Bancroft OPP detachment for an intoxilyzer test. 36 year old Stuart Vataja of Harcourt, Ontario has been charged with operate a motor vehicle with over 80 milligrams of alcohol in his blood and impaired operation of a motor vehicle, contrary to the Criminal Code of Canada. Mr. Vataja was released from custody and is scheduled to appear in Bancroft court on the 20th of April 2010. ■

Handgun Seized

Officers from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment seized a 45 calibre handgun this weekend after receiving a call about gunshots on Monrock Lake in Highlands East Township.

On Saturday afternoon officers responded to a report of a male out on the lake shooting what appeared to be a handgun. Officers attended the scene and spoke to a suspect. The male party was arrested and taken to the Haliburton Highlands Detachment.

Officer seized an unregistered .45 calibre handgun and ammunition.

Gregory Lloyd Rayner 40 years of Gananoque, Ontario has been charged with numerous firearm related offences and was held in custody pending a bail hearing. ■

"How is a huge unnecessary fire hall going to provide better medical attention?"

... from pg. 4

I had a rather positive outlook with the \$250,000 dollar surplus however my outlook took a sudden step backwards. As stated we are \$153,000 dollars short from last year. Then there would be our 10 percent funding contribution of \$100,000 for a new inconceivable fire proposal thereby meaning a debt of \$253,000 dollars. Surplus \$250,000 dollars less debt of \$253,000 dollars produces a negative \$3,000 dollars. Not much one would say, well let's not forget other budget issues. What about wage negotiation increases and increases in council remuneration and again the increase costs once the HST is implemented. Common sense would say restraint should prevail. Due to amalgamation policing costs have doubled over the past four years to almost \$600,000 per year, that being approximately \$200,000 more than our fire department budget.

Due to amalgamation municipal budgets have escalated and we have to live with that; however it is imperative for municipal structures to work smarter not foolishly. We are all aware there are a few who thrive on secrecy so let's see if Reeve Burton holds true to form. Why are ratepayers in their respective wards not being informed of such increases at least not in ward Three - Gooderham? Hopefully the 2010 election will end the ongoing fiasco.

Beverly MacDuff
Gooderham ■

Municipal Election Buzz

By Liz Danielsen

Four weeks into the municipal election process and the buzz has really started to gain momentum. Undercurrents of energy are palpable in municipal circles and rumours abound at the coffee shops about who will stand again for Council, whether they'll consider a different position and who might pop out of the woodwork, willing to take a stab at leading their community through the beginning of a new decade.

A quick survey early this week indicates that there are only two truly daring county residents who have stepped up to the plate and put their names forward for consideration by an often judgemental public. Val Craftchick has been duly nominated as Ward 4 Councillor and Martin Lacey has been nominated as Ward 5 Councillor. The floodgates have opened.

Some of the existing members of Council have declared that they will not run again, as is the case with Reeve Eleanor Harrison and Councillor Diane Griffin in Algonquin Highlands. A number of councillors are sitting on the fence wondering if they should carry on and many have stated categorically that they do intend to run again, some for the same position, and others with sufficient experience under their belt to run for Reeve or Deputy Reeve. And then there are one or two that are likely just yanking chains to see what everyone's reaction will be. It's also interesting to note that there is already a marked change in the performance of some Council members.

When it comes to strategy, some candidates will decide to wait in the wings to see who their competition is; trying to calculate their odds or the amount of energy (and money) they will have to expend to be successful. Others, like Craftchick and Lacey, may have decided to take the greatest window of opportunity to allow people to get to know them; to consider their suitability and learn what they stand for.

Lake association meetings get under way early in the year and there is a serious round of annual general meetings that welcome their area candidates. What better way to get your message and goals for your community out in person or to learn the concerns of local tax payers, anxious about things like shoreline development, environmental protection and continued clean sources of water to name a few.

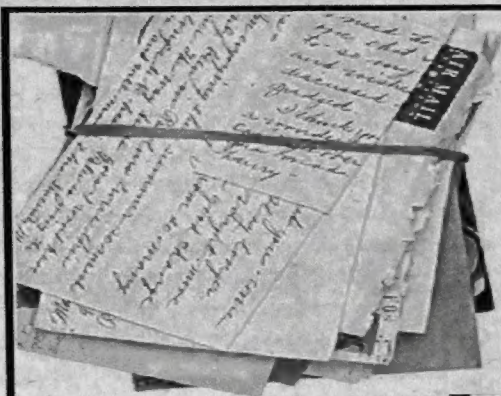
When considering whether to run or not, candidates should think long and hard about the position they are best suited for. If you have the experience, aplomb and willingness to cooperate, are a good interpreter of public opinion and have the natural ability to lead, create an environment of trust and bring people together, you just might be a candidate for Reeve.

Whether a Reeve or brand new councillor, it can be a heavy load to carry. These are positions that provide individuals with an opportunity to shape the policies that govern your community and many guides to municipal elections will stress how important it is to have a general understanding of the workings of local government and its financial system. An understanding of conflict of interest and the general requirements for managing campaign funds are only several of the key bits of knowledge that will form the foundation of your campaign before it really gets into full swing.

Candidates in the race may find it impossible to have a private moment in the local coffee shop or be burdened by the fact that the rules won't always allow them to move in the direction they'd like. There is undoubtedly a need to study detailed and often difficult documents in order to prepare for meetings ad nauseam. Many considering a position on Council may feel from time to time like they have embarked on a thankless task and will often be called on to draw from skills they never knew they had in order to make decisions they couldn't have dreamed they would have to consider.

Hopefully, what candidates will discover if successful, is that they've been elected to an office that can create levels of pride and satisfaction; knowing they have done the very best they can for their community and that it's all worth the pittance they're paid for their hard work.

Sound like something you'd like to do? Stay tuned to see who takes the next leap of faith. ■



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On The Trails

This is a regular feature which is authored by the Haliburton All Terrain Vehicle Association, (HATVA).

HATVA is a locally based, not for profit organization with a membership of more than 800. HATVA insures our members' usage of private and public land and maintains more than 3,000 kms of trails in the Haliburton area. Our website is www.haliburtonatv.com.

There is a terrific trail in Haliburton, which permits travellers a beautiful route between Haliburton village south to the county line just north of Kinmount, and continues as the Victoria Rail Trail south through Lindsay and terminates at Bethany. It is the Haliburton Rail Trail.

A few years ago the owner of the Haliburton rail trail, Haliburton County, determined through a study, that the best way to utilize the rail trail, was to make it available to multi users. Now people who enjoy riding horses, walking, hiking, riding bicycles and ATVs have a place to travel, that was not only very scenic but it got them away from road vehicles making it safer. The county and HATVA have an annual agreement, to allow ATVs to use the trail, provided HATVA insure and warden the trail, use calcium for dust control and many other items. It was at that time, that the county made it mandatory that ATVs had to have a permit to use the trail. That one year agreement has continued successfully for many years. In addition, we did work above and beyond the agreement like spring garbage clean up and spreading calcium in front of homes to control dust. By having HATVA patrol the trail, it is a significant cost saving to the tax payers.

The Haliburton Rail Trail has significant historical value, since rail travel was a major link to other areas and markets. HATVA hands out a brochure which explains about points of interest along the trail. Some of the former structures are not clearly evident today. The brochure makes reference to locations along the trail, relative to kilometre signs.

HATVA schedules a group of volunteer trail wardens to cover the length of the rail trail from April 1 to November 30. Our trail wardens are clearly visible by wearing a black vest with TRAIL WARDEN in white print on a blue background on the front and back of the vests. Trail wardens are a significant asset to users of the trail. By patrolling the trail, they can check on and do sign maintenance, make sure the trail is safe, help walkers and cyclists with directions and give them water on hot days, locate points of interest, clean up litter, check and report on the condition of the rail trail and bridges, as well as stop and check that ATVs have a permit and that they obey the 30 kph speed limit. Should a trail user have a medical problem, the trail wardens can assist emergency crews with the location of the patient.

ATVs are not permitted on the rail trail from December 1 to May 31. The county bylaw officer who is authorized to lay charges, also rides with trail wardens.

Often the trails we use are shared with other groups such as snowmobile clubs and we financially support maintenance, such as re-decking bridges. Members of our club donate their labour to projects; such is the case with the two bridges on the rail trail, where we provided well over 200 man hours of volunteer labour.

Enjoy your rail trail. Please carry out, that which you carried in.
Next month: atv safety. ■

What's Up Doc?

The Cost of Chronic Disease

By Dr. Carol Sanio, Minden Veterinary Hospital

Your dentist, no doubt, recommends annual or biannual examinations, cleaning and preventative care for your teeth.

Your doctor likely has been telling you for years about the value of regular check ups, blood work, and various other tests. When you turn 50, doctors start recommending other tests for early detection of disease and early treatment. Annual exams in people would be comparable to every three to four months exams in your pet. A 50 year old dog would be about seven in human years. A 50 year old cat would be about eight or nine in human years.

Early detection and preventative care and improved medicine are why we are living so much longer than before. Our pets also live longer when preventative care and early detection of disease are practiced. When our pets live longer, we tend to have more chronic or on-going health issues that need to be treated. Many people opt out of a wellness treatment plan or they balk at the costs and prefer to pay for health problems when they arise. This is a costly decision.

Have you ever thought about the cost of chronic disease?

Dr. Paul Bartlett, MPH, PhD, an epidemiologist at Michigan State and Dr. James Van Buren, MBA, president of research firm Vector Scientific Resources in Kalamazoo, Michigan have. They conducted a study of treatment costs at the university's veterinary teaching hospital. This study tabulated the annual cost of treating dogs and cats with certain common diseases like anterior cruciate ligament rupture (ACL), chronic kidney disease (CRF), heart disease, pancreatitis, Osteoarthritis, and Diabetes to name a few.

They looked at the annual median cost of each disease and the 25th percentile and the 75th percentile. Those that practiced preventative health were closer to the 25 percentile; those that practiced "fire engine practice" or treated problems as they arose were at the high end.

Chronic Kidney disease in dogs had a median annual cost of \$1,823, \$1078 for 25th percentile; the 75th percentile was \$2,998.00. Not all chronic Kidney disease can be prevented in dogs through regular veterinary care but many can and many more can be prolonged before expensive medication is required. People who participate in a wellness plan that includes periodic physical examinations and diagnostic testing such as blood work, urinalysis, are much more likely to learn of their pets' condition early in its course and keep costs of treatment toward the lower end of the scale. Just feeding the right food and proper dental care for their pet with kidney disease makes a big difference to kidney health, longevity and annual costs.

The median annual costs of heart disease in dogs was \$1912, with \$953 the 25th percentile and \$4693 the 75th percentile. Early detection and treatment keeping the costs to the lower end would make a huge difference in the cost of this pets' chronic disease over its lifetime. Both kidney and heart problems often stem from poor dental care. Periodontal disease is a cause of heart and kidney problems in a very high percentage of pets.

The pet has a better quality of life if the disease is caught early. It also makes a good case for pet insurance since many of the insurance policies also include the annual blood work and dental cleaning usually recommended by veterinarians as part of preventative care especially as our pets age.

The financial costs of chronic disease are quite high. It is much wiser for your pet and your pocket book to do some preventative health care. ■

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Algonquin Highlands Municipal Summary

Liz Danielsen

Staff Reporter

Council Institutes Electronic Agenda

Reeve Eleanor Harrison opened the January 21st meeting by saying that the municipality was making history. It was their first meeting with a paperless/electronic agenda. Harrison said, "The system works very well at the County level and it is our hope that the public will like the electronic agenda and the fact that we are being more open."

Despite the fact that Harrison said she had received a number of positive comments in advance of the meeting, the system did have a few glitches. There is no doubt that the agenda is now available earlier and all of the associated documents can be viewed by anyone through the County's website, but wireless connections were not available for those wishing to use a laptop during the meeting and many were required to follow the agenda on an overhead screen from a distance that may have precluded some from being able to read it.

In addition, the Council has still not come to terms with the need for laptops. Accepting that it is the municipality's responsibility to provide the tools to do their job, Treasurer Sheila Griffin budgeted for a number of notebooks, but several of the Council members felt they would prefer to use their own laptops to enjoy the benefit of a larger screen and keyboard. Councillor Don Shortreed, following in the footsteps of several of the members of County Council, has voiced his preference for a paper copy of the agenda several times.

Council asked Griffin to try to schedule the County's IT Coordinator to attend the next meeting to try to resolve the issue of wireless connections. In the meantime, progress is being made and anyone wanting to view by-laws, agendas and minutes over the past three years now has ready access to the information by going to www.haliburtoncounty.ca or www.algonquinhighlands.ca and following the area links.

Referring to another aspect of the agenda, the January 21st agenda may be the last one that includes times for specific discussions. Harrison said, "We have been discussing taking the times off the agenda, and the public will have to take their chances. Timing curtails our activities to some degree."

Deputy Reeve Tom Gardner commented that he could see how the Council might want to give the public approximate times, but as they have often breezed through parts of the agenda, he could understand the suggestion. Clerk Angie Bird inquired about scheduling staff. Gardner suggested scheduling staff reports at the beginning of the meetings, similar to County Council meetings and Harrison commented that it wouldn't hurt the staff to hear each other's reports if there was some overlap.

Rezoning Approved for Green Lake Road Resident

George and Sylvia Claridge have requested a partial rezoning of their Green Lake Road property. As a result of a severance application to separate a two acre riverfront parcel from the remainder of their land, a public meeting was held on January 21st to consider rezoning the Rural zoned parcel to Shoreline Residential Type 1.

Planning Administrator Angie Bird advised Council that a storage shed on the severed property would have to be removed and an entrance approved by the municipality's Roads Department. Bird reported that the request had been approved by the Land Division in June, advertised in August

and the documentation circulated to all of the adjacent property owners. The retained property will continue to be zoned Rural and Environmental Protection.

Bird also reported that no comments or concerns, either written or verbal had been received on the application, and on the basis of the information provided Council approved the request and passed the appropriate rezoning by-law. According to Bird, the public has a 20 day period in which to appeal the decision.

Council Agrees to Participate in Used Tire Program

Although the Algonquin Highlands Council isn't the first in the County to jump on the band wagon, it has agreed to participate in the province's industry driven Used Tire Program.

The municipality's Waste Reduction Coordinator, Gayle Short, said, "We've been looking at whether to sign up or not as the requirements seemed a bit onerous." But according to Short, reports from other participating municipalities, including Highlands East and Dysart, indicate there are incentives that make the program worthwhile, the first of which is that residents will not have to pay to dispose of their used tires.

Of course there are limits to the number of tires that can be brought in (no more than four at a time), not all tires will be accepted and anything that the municipality has in inventory at the time of registering doesn't qualify. Otherwise, periodically registered haulers will pick the tires up at no fee, take them away and an allowance fee will be paid to the municipality for each tire.

"If you have a hundred tires in your back field, they won't qualify," Short said, "unless you bring them in four at a time."

This Ontario Tire Stewardship program, introduced last fall, was developed to manage the collection and management of scrap tires. It's a voluntary program and any resident can participate and dispose of their used tires at either the Maple Lake or Oxtongue landfill site with no fees involved. According to Short, businesses aren't eligible but can register their own collection sites.

When asked if tires would be accepted at the Dorset landfill, Operations Manager Brian Whetstone said that would create storage problems. He did say, however, that when a transfer station is established in Dorset it might be possible.

Councillor Don Shortreed asked if the tires had to be off the rim and Short said, "The requirements sometimes differ from what really happens." Apparently the Stewardship Council says they would like the tires taken off the rim. However, while it's not encouraged, they will accept them, given the value of the rims for scrap metal.

Councillor Carol Moffatt inquired whether residents would have to pay a fee to dispose of ineligible tires and Short recommended that, in the spirit of trying to clean up the community, there should be no fee. Whetstone agreed, saying that it was a good idea to clean up the township and there should be a little more revenue for their efforts.

And Council could find no argument with that. A resolution was passed unanimously accepting Short's and Whetstone's recommendations.

Haiti Relief and a Challenge to Other Municipal Councils

Council considered a request and challenge to municipalities from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario to raise funds for Haiti Relief. According to association President Peter Hume, if every member municipality donated at least \$100, a minimum of \$44,400 of additional aid would be raised.

Hume also reminded the municipalities that the federal government has committed to matching the generosity of Canadians up to a total of \$50 million dollars. In efforts of efficiency and cost effectiveness, Hume asked that donations be made directly to any experienced humanitarian organization involved in providing relief.

Gardner commented that the Council had a policy that serves the municipality. Referring to a recent request for funding that had been turned down, he said, "It's obvious that there are great causes, but our ratepayers should decide on their own whether to contribute." Gardner reflected that during a state of emergency in the county, everyone assumes that evacuation centres can be fired up or that the infrastructure is in place to handle things. "But they have nothing; it's all gone."

Moffatt said, "I feel mean saying no, but we have families in the County that can't afford food and rent."

So, in order to follow their policy, the request was denied; but that didn't stop the Council members from putting their heads together and each of them from digging into their pockets for \$20.00 to make up the donation of \$100 themselves. ■

Haliburton Village BIA Annual General Meeting

Speaker is Judy Coward

Economic Development Consultant
Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural

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Minden Hills Municipal Summary

Liz Danielsen

Staff Reporter

Council Seeks Funding for Improvements to Newcastle Street

During a Special Meeting on January 14th the Minden Hills Council agreed to apply for funding under FedDev Ontario's Community Adjustment Fund. The project, if the municipality is successful in receiving funding, will focus on improvements to Newcastle Street.

According to Clerk Cheryl McCarroll approximately \$550,000 will be spent on road work with an additional \$250,000 required to replace water lines between Bobcaygeon Road and Highway 35. The project will include 250 metres of new sidewalks, as well as curbs and gutters, new fire hydrants, manholes and a retaining wall at Milne Street. Once the improvements are made, Newcastle Street is expected to have a life expectancy of 20 to 25 years.

This project is 'shovel ready' and the municipality will have to shoulder one third of the cost. While municipalities are eligible for up to 90 percent of projects like this, the Council felt their chances of success in receiving the funds would be improved.

Hopeful, but not holding his breath, Reeve Jim McMahon said, "We've been very fortunate over the last several rounds of funding and have received a lot more money than the other municipalities in the County. It will be a bonus if we are successful."

Economic Development Plan Still Hanging in the Balance

While an economic development master plan remains a priority for many of the Minden Hills Council, it is a costly project and one they are still having a hard time justifying.

The Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs have reviewed a 'pre-proposal' for funding of the plan and are recommending that the municipality consider completing a formal application for a more detailed review.

Even McMahon, who has been a strong supporter of economic development planning said, "I'm of mixed mind on this subject. \$100,000 to prepare a plan of that nature is hard for me to digest when so much of the ground work has been done."

McMahon confirmed that a master plan had been the Council's number one priority during a strategic planning session held in 2008 and agreed that it was needed for the growth of the community. "We need direction," he said adding that if funding is approved and the project got underway, it would nice if the new council could 'jump on board.' "I'd hate to spend that amount of money, hire a consultant and get the project underway only to discover that it is not a priority for the new Council."

Some discussion took place during their meeting on the 14th, and concerns were raised about the cost of the project and the impact on 2010 tax rates. Council agreed that the project needed 100 percent support and all members should be present when making the decision. Further discussion on whether to move forward with the plan or not has been deferred until January 28th.

Councillor Barbara Reid has been a strong advocate of an economic development plan for Minden Hills and has taken a lead role in trying to get the project off the ground. To Reid, money should not be the issue. "Each member of Council needs to simply declare whether they buy into the vision or not. It has to be a shared vision and have the full support of Council if it's going to work. If not, it's a bad spend because we won't be getting the outcome or effort that we need."

According to Reid, a lot of water has gone under the bridge since they looked at the first round of proposals. "We really need to go back to the drawing board and fine tune our requirements." Reid says that a fresh set of eyes are needed to detail commercial opportunities for Minden Hills, but even she agreed that it might be better to wait for the new council to determine if it is a priority or not.

Reid said, "We have people buying products and services out of the area because they're not available here and we need someone to put together a market profile for Minden that could be taken to various chains. We have no assessment of our assets and how they're being utilized, adding that a plan could involve traffic deployment and the utilization of municipal lands."

Reid added, "What we have in front of us today is not ready to be actioned. It has a lack of specificity." While she said she would be happy to spend more time on the project, she would only do so if it had the full support of Council.

So the project is not dead yet, but Council may decide that it's not be the sort of project that it should take on in year four of its term. We'll find out on January 28th.

Admission Fees Pending for Cultural Centre

Residents and visitors alike will soon have to dig into their pocket for a toonie if they want to enjoy the Minden Hills Cultural Centre.

The cost of administering the Centre, which includes the Museum, Agnes Jamieson Gallery and R. D. Lawrence Place, has traditionally been funded by the municipality and donations, and admission has always been donation based. But the Council has been mulling over the possibility of admission fees and, at its request, Cultural Centre Director Daniela Pagliaro provided them with a dual admission policy for the cultural centre as well as a rental fee schedule for the meeting room in the new library.

Rates of \$2.00 for adults, \$1.00 for youth, students and seniors, \$4.00 per family and no charge for members or children under 12 were recommended by Pagliaro for the Cultural Centre with higher fees to visit the complex overall.

The dual admission policy didn't sit well with Councillor Reid, who also thought that the first time fees were high enough that the plan would not be successful. "It's too big an ask and we're going to fall flat on our face," she said. Reid suggested that a toonie might be more appropriate. "We're working from a zero base so any increase will be an improvement. This is unrealistic," she said and Reeve Jim McMahon agreed.

Councillor Peter Oyler was in accord that there shouldn't be a dual policy, but said that if Council was to approve a single rate structure for the centre it should be increased, considering what was being offered to the public. To this Reid responded, "You may think there is great value, but it is up to the public to vote with their feet. It's a question of marketing and if you set the barrier too high it will have an effect on your traffic. There's just something about a toonie," she said, "and if they're pouring through the door, you can raise the rates in subsequent years."

Ratcliff raised concerns about the difficulty of administering a two tiered rate structure, saying that he agreed with Reid when it came to 'making it simple.'

Oyler finally said, "OK, I surrender. Just remember the revenue line next year."

The proposed rates to visit the complex that Council finally agreed on, which will be formalized after a public meeting on the 28th of January, were \$2.00 for adults, \$1.00 for youth and seniors and \$4.00 per family with admission for children free.

On the issue of library rentals it was agreed that rates of \$30.00 per half day and \$50.00 for a full day would be charged for the library meeting room during library operating hours. Requests for rental of the whole library for special events will be directed to the Head Librarian for consideration. After some discussion it was agreed that all of the fees would be administered by Ms. Pagliaro, and for now revenues would go into a shared pot for the museum and cultural centre.

No Permits for Canvas Storage Structures

For now, no permits will be required in Minden Hills when erecting temporary storage tents on residential properties. That is, if you're only planning on putting up one.

The Minden Hills Council has been considering the matter of temporary storage units for some time, particularly given their potential for liability and general compliance with zoning and property standards by-laws. After weighing the pros and cons CBO Ken Jones recommended that these structures be allowed on a temporary basis as winter shelters without the need for a permit, from October through April. If the structures are to be used year round, Jones suggested that a permit would be required along with conformance with the building code and necessary setbacks.

Councillor Bill Obee thought that the time frame should be increased. Councillor Reid thought that Jones' recommendation was fraught with enforcement challenges. Reeve McMahon was concerned about liability, particularly after the heavy snowfall and resulting snow load.

Reid said, "I think we're losing the main focus of this discussion. This has been a cosmetic issue and we're trying to prevent clutter with residential properties using them as quasi storage buildings. What we need is a by-law that will prevent the proliferation of these buildings."

McMahon asked Jones the extent of the problem and Jones responded that his department had been requesting setbacks for the structures but no permits had been required and there had been few complaints.

McMahon said, "If there's no problem, why put up a red flag? This has taken a lot of time and if there is no real problem why make one."

Councillor Oyler, however, said he felt Jones' recommendation was reasonable. He also supported Obee's recommendation to extend the dates from October 1st through to June 1st. Despite mixed reviews a resolution was passed by a tight 4 to 3 vote allowing one unit per residential property that would have to meet all setback requirements. ■

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Oven roasted white potatoes with Chef's sautéed mixed vegetables

○ *Havarti Beef Melt*

Shaved roast beef with sautéed onions & mushrooms

Topped with Havarti cheese on a Ciabatta bun, served with sweet potato fries

With Dessert:

Warmed Apple Crisp with Cream

Fresh ground Coffee or Seeped Tea

\$25 per person including taxes

Please R.S.V.P by January 30th, 2010 with your
menu choices to Marilyn Wright, U-Links
Phone (705) 286-2411 or admin.ulinks@on.aibn.com

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Haliburton & District Lions Club Answers WinterDance Dogsled Tours' Bootie Call

The Haliburton & District Lions Club answers Hank DeBruin from Winterdance Dogsled Tours' bootie call with a \$500.00 cheque. The dogs will go through over 4000 dog booties this year during training and running the 1150 mile Alaskan Iditarod, the last great race on earth. Hank's team will be only team to participate from Ontario and he is up to the challenge.

The Lions would like to challenge other service clubs to match or better the Haliburton and District Lions Bootie call for Winterdance's Iditarod team. ■

Back Row: Lion Robert Heeps, Lion Marilyn Frost; **Front Row:** Lion Gerald Hadley, Winterdance's Hank DeBruin, Lion Jim Frost, Lion Tina Hadley; **Background:** Winterdance's Fraser Newton with Hank's Winterdance Iditarod team

Pinestone Fundraiser Nets \$7000 For Iditarod

By Mark Arike

Thanks to a tremendous showing of support from the community, local dogsled racer Hank DeBruin is that much closer to fulfilling his 15-year-long dream.

It only took a day's worth of fundraising at the Pinestone Resort this past Saturday to bring in about \$7,000 for a journey that will see DeBruin and 16 of his finest Siberian huskies take on what is dubbed as "the last great race on earth" – the Alaskan Iditarod.

The race, set to begin on March 6, is a 1,850 kilometre challenge that isn't for the faint of heart. Freezing cold temperatures, wide-open barren landscape, and hours upon hours of race time will greet these four-legged athletes and their musher.

Not only does the race itself pose numerous challenges, so does the time leading up to it. DeBruin estimates that the costs associated with the entire trip will be in the neighbourhood of \$40,000.

"The most costly parts of the trip are transportation – getting the team to Anchorage and back, and flying them out of Nome," said DeBruin in an email.

Other estimated expenses include: food for the dogs - \$2,000; transporting gear - \$2,000; gear (dogs and DeBruin) - \$10,000; and race entry fee - \$4,500.

"The list goes on and on," added DeBruin.

During Saturday's "Bootie Call" fundraiser, over 100 people – locals and out-of-towners – donated to help turn DeBruin's dream into a reality. Dog sponsorship's, sales of dog booties and a silent auction were all part of the festivities.

With about a month left to go, DeBruin – who also owns and operates Winterdance Dogsled Tours with his wife Tanya McCready – is sticking to a strict training regiment.

"I run the dogs daily from 40 to 100 mile runs," he said. "The team has around 2,000 miles on them this year, but we will need to put on another 600 to 700 miles over the next several weeks."

To do that the team will run an upcoming race in Michigan and participate in a camping/training trip in Michigan.

And after the Iditarod what does these local celebrities have planned?

"I would like to run the Yukon Quest, another 1,000 mile race that runs from Whitehorse Fairbanks ... we have also been invited to be the first Canadian team to run a marathon Russian race in Siberia next winter."

Since DeBruin is about halfway to meeting his fundraising goal, donations and/or sponsorships can still be made by visiting www.winterdance.com/raceteam.

And if you missed out on getting some dog booties, don't worry, more will be available at the Haliburton Highlands Dog Sled Derby on Feb. 13 and 14 at the Pinestone Resort. □



Hank DeBruin stands with his son Dustyn and one of the race team dogs who will be going to Alaska

A Legend Comes to Life at McKecks

Performing Arts Shows Take Off At Haliburton Restaurant

By Mark Arike

McKecks in Haliburton was at capacity for its first big concert of the season: a Patsy Cline tribute show.

Many concert-goers – sporting country garb – could be seen up on their feet, grooving to the sounds of Donna Lee and her spot-on back-up band this past Saturday. During the slower classics performed that night, audience members were visibly hypnotized by Lee's exquisite voice – which sounded incredibly like the real deal.

"I'm usually skeptical of cover-bands, but these guys are good," said restaurant owner Maarten Steinkamp during an intermission.

Even after incurring a "wardrobe malfunction" during the break, nothing appeared to slow Lee down. In addition to hitting all the right notes, she mesmerized the crowd with tales about herself, and the influence that the late,



great country star had on her. Lee is a Nashville recording artist who travelled from Massachusetts with her band for the Haliburton show. ■

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Have Your Say... VOX POP

Have you been asked to contribute to the Haiti crisis? Would it be your priority amongst other charities to donate to? Do you think Canada has done enough to contribute? Do you know anyone who is doing out there to help?



Bob Kirkham, Haliburton
No-one has come up to me and specifically asked but I've seen where you can donate, there are posters up at the beer store and Independent. I've actually already donated so it's definitely a priority. I think Canada has done a lot, we have strong ties with Haiti and there is a large population of Haitians in Montreal.



Colin McKelvey, Haliburton
No one has asked me but I have contributed, mostly I've seen advertisements on the internet. It's such an awful thing, I went to trade school with a guy from Haiti and he would tell me terrible stories about the shape it was in, now they are getting the aid to rebuild the place, it's really devastating. I think Canada has from what I gather, we have two warships off the coast. I don't know anyone out there but my wife knows two people who are helping out there.



Larry Southgate, Haliburton
I haven't been asked by anyone, I used to work for General Motors so I'm assuming they would have as they would always contribute to charities. I like contributing to local charities but I would also contribute to the Haiti crisis. I haven't seen exactly how much Canada has contributed but I watched Harpers announcement on Monday, we have had Canadian police over there for a number of years so yes I think Canada is doing their part. I don't know anyone out there.



Wallace Tait, Eagle Lake
I've been sent things in the mail asking for help and I've responded to some of them, I contribute to several charities and one of them requested specifically to contribute to the Haiti crisis. I think Canada has done well, especially in the private sector that's been excellent and from the government. I'd like to see the money well spent over there. I don't know anyone who is going out there.

Earthweek: A Diary of the Planet

By Steve Newman



Pollution Handicap

Pollution blown across the entire North Pacific from the smokestacks of Asia's industrial belt is responsible for worsening air quality in the western United States, researchers say. Writing in the journal *Nature*, lead author Owen Cooper of the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences at the University of Colorado at Boulder says the foreign pollution could unfairly hamper local efforts to meet Clean Air Act standards for ozone pollution at ground level. He says research reveals that springtime ozone levels 2 to 5 miles above the surface have risen by 29 percent as Asia's heavy industry has expanded sharply between 1984 and 2008. Such a surge could only be accounted for by pollutants from Asia that are converted to ozone and carried to North America by strong and prevailing westerly winds, Cooper concludes.

Icy Isolation

The most expansive and thickest sea ice off China's northeastern coast in 40 years is killing fish stocks, hampering shipping and stranding islanders unable to leave by ferry. The State Oceanic Administration said that 40 percent of the Bohai Sea's surface was frozen, with some of the ice now nearly 14 inches thick. Fishing boats are trapped in port, and some stranded residents of Juhua Island were ignoring official warnings and driving or walking five miles over the ice to reach the mainland.

Tropical Cyclone

Cyclone Magda struck a remote stretch of Western Australia late in the week. After forming over the Banda Sea, the storm strengthened to Category 1 force before making landfall near Derby.

Wayward Hummer

A hummingbird common in the Pacific coastal fog belt of California and southern Oregon has been rescued from malnutrition on Cape Cod, almost 3,000 miles from its normal habitat. The *Cape Cod Times* reports the Allen's hummingbird was brought to the Wild Care of Cape Cod animal rehabilitation center after being found downed in the snow with ice crystals on its wings. Christine Omar discovered the thumb-sized bird in October, and draped a string of lights around a feeder to keep the sugar mixture from freezing. The bird needed to feed almost constantly during the Arctic blasts of December and early January, eventually crashing from the diet of refined sugar. "Just as if you or I were only eating Froot Loops for a really long time, you'd start to deteriorate and have some symptoms of undernourishment," said rehabilitation center director Lela Lamed. The bird was said to be recovering and receiving offers to take it back to its milder California home.

Earthquakes

Port-au-Prince and neighboring parts of quake-devastated Haiti were jolted by a powerful aftershock of the disastrous Jan. 12 temblor. It produced only a little additional damage but instilled even more fear into the desperate surviving population.

- Landslides triggered by a minor earthquake in southern China's Guizhou province killed at least seven people and left one person missing.

- Several people sustained minor injuries from a 5.4 magnitude quake that shook a number of northeastern Venezuelan states.

- Earth movements were also felt in western Greece, central Chile, the Cayman Islands and Yellowstone National Park.

Summer Snowfall

A freak midsummer snowfall shocked many holiday visitors to the mountains of Australia's New South Wales and Victoria states, where flurries fell for nearly three hours. The country's Bureau of Meteorology said snow fell down to 3,000 feet in elevation due to a cold front that brought frigid air from Antarctica to southeastern Australia. The freak summertime snow punctuated the end of Australia's hottest decade on record and Melbourne's hottest overnight temperature on record only one week earlier.

Tale of No Tails

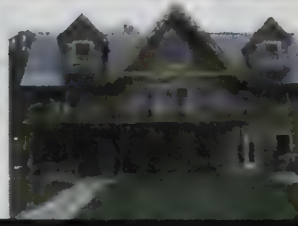
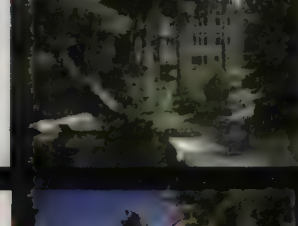
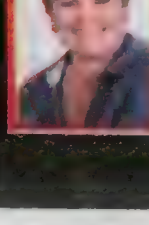
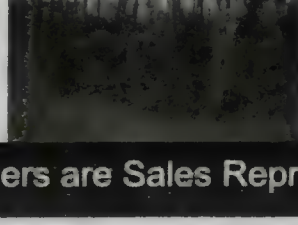
Giraffes in Tanzania's Arusha National Park have recently been found to be missing their tails, or having tails that have been bitten off or mangled. Officials in the East African park say an absence of lions and an abundance of hungry hyenas in the park are the main reasons for the missing appendages. "When there are no ferocious predators in any park, then few animals are killed. In this case, there will be no carcasses lying around and thus hyenas get no food," park warden Bosco Kessy Atanasio told the *Arusha Times*. That has prompted the hungry scavengers to jump and nibble at the tails of the giraffes before eventually being kicked off by the tall animals, Atanasio said. Giraffes have the longest tail of any land mammal. The appendages can stretch to 8 feet in length, including a tuft on the end. Conservationists point out that the missing tails may actually save the giraffes from poaching. The animals have been killed for their tails, which are sold on the black market, or woven into bracelets and sold to tourists.

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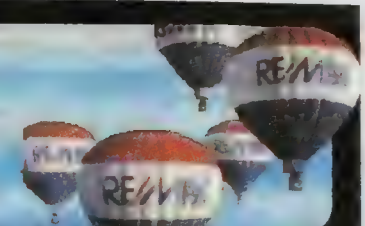
 Bill Kulas Minden Office 286-2911 ext. 44	 53 Main St - \$239,500 Location! Location! Location! Superb high visibility commercial location. Modern, well built commercial building on town water and sewers. Central heating and air conditioning. Plenty of parking. The owner will provide vacant possession of the front part of the building, if so required, while the back part of the building is rented out to a great triple "A" tenant. Ideal opportunity for a clinic, retail store, professional office, restaurant, bakery or ??? Call Bill Kulas for more details.	 Family Home - \$219,500 Seller is relocating and has priced this spacious family home to sell! Superb location. Level, landscaped lot. Featuring four bedrooms, large eat in kitchen, separate dining room, main floor den/computer room, full basement, two car attached garage and paved drive. New decks at the front and back of the house. A must see! Call Bill Kulas to view today or check out www.BillKulas.com for more details and photos
 Cathy* Lancia & Shirley Rule Kennis Lake Office 754-4242	 Big Kennisis Lake - \$499,700 Acreage with pristine and peaceful waterfront. This north facing property is in a bay of Big Kennisis on the West Shore and boasts 27 acres of forest with 420 ft of sandy lakefront. The driveway is in and a site has been cleared to build on with an 8'x12' cabin. Many pleasant features to this vast property.	 Eco-Log House - \$899,700 Awesome Eco-Log building, approx 2500sf with an additional 400sf in basement, finished. Ensuite in 2 master bedrms. Ceiling to flr stone fp & a 2nd propane fp in the master bedrm. Picture windows & glass railings for total view of landscape. Pine finish incl Kitchen w/island & trim, the cathedral ceiling in Grt Rm open to loft above & is part of the hemlock log structure. F/A propane heat & air. Dr.well. Hardwd flrs. 4 bedrm & 4 baths, 2 fp's. 193ft beach is part of the level lot that has been landscaped tastefully.
 Debra Lambe Haliburton Office 457-1011 ext. 244	 Haliburton Estate Lot - \$99,900 Private estate lot (5.5 acres) located in newer subdivision in village of Haliburton w/spectacular view of Grass and Head Lake. Conveniently located within walking distance to Sir Sandford Fleming College. Cleared site, drilled well, driveway and septic approved.	 Location Location CENTURY HOME - \$199,900 Large and well maintained 3 B.R., 2 bath/home in the heart of Haliburton with easy access to all amenities. Situated on corner, landscaped lot w/fenced yard for privacy and lovely gardens. Some features include hardwood oak floors, slate flooring at entrance, main floor laundry and main floor bedroom or office, propane fireplace and carport. Newer windows, roof and furnace. Town sewers. Would be perfect home, rental or home business location.
 Denise LeBlanc Minden Office 286-2911 ext. 33	 Hunter Creek Estates - \$99,900 Well built Quebec manufactured home located in Hunter Creek Estates, Mindens adult community. This bright and spacious 3 bdrm home is the only one with a full partially finished basement including workshop, 2 pc bath, and a lovely walkout to the very private back yard. And as an added bonus located at the end of the street. For information call Denise.	 200 Acres - \$129,000 Full two hundred acre parcel located close to Minden, an excellent hunting property. Access to Little Bob Lake thru an unopened road allowance for a bit of swimming or fishing. Bordering 100 acre crown lot with a big pond.
 Fred Chapple Minden Office 286-2911 ext. 43	 1957 Fleming Road - \$249,000 Enjoy this Royal Home in a quiet neighbourhood near the edge of town, walking distance to school. 3 plus bedrooms, full - high basement. Insulated 2 car attached garage. On town water and sewer. Central vac, air exchanger, whirlpool tub and outside hot tub complete this package.	 Little Boshkung Lake - \$635,000 Very spacious custom built viceroi style back split home or cottage. Vaulted ceilings and open concept main rooms allow for great entertaining. Three bedrooms and three baths and a finished lower level with family room and wet bar. A modern large gazebo and a one bedroom with bath, kitchenette & living rm all in a one slip covered boathouse with sand beach & a glorious western sunset completes the picture.
 Geoff Bunn Haliburton Office 457-1011 ext. 242	 Fred Jones Road - \$124,900 Complete privacy on this property, overlooking a small pond. This 3 bedroom, 1 bath with main floor laundry home is only minutes to the town of Haliburton, or just down the road to public access to Drag Lake.	 Starter or Retirement - \$129,900 Great starter or retirement home, centrally located in Wilberforce. Steps away from all amenities, and a short walk to access on Pusey (Dark) Lake. Level lot with large mature trees and a 16'x16' shed. The house has had many recent upgrades. Very neat and well laid out bungalow that shows pride of ownership. You don't want to miss this one!
 Jeff Wilson Haliburton Office 457-1011 ext. 233	 Newly Constructed - \$299,000 Residential - Newly constructed home close to town, very private setting. Modern 3+ bdrm home with ensuite off master. Open concept living room/ kitchen w/ pine floors throughout. In floor heating throughout w/ a wood burning FP on main floor. Finish the bsmt to your liking w/ 9' ceilings & 3rd bath roughed in. Circular driveway, drilled well & septic. Insulated Concrete Formed from the ground up.	 Residential - \$199,000 Be on the water for less than \$200 Thousand. Enjoy this beautiful level lot, 3 bedroom home or cottage with access to Maple, Grass and Pine Lakes. A perfect first cottage. Also old original cottage exists on property.
 Ken* Barry Haliburton Office 457-1011 ext. 228	 1017 Eagle Lake Rd - \$138,900 Very affordable three bedroom home in the Village of West Guilford close to shopping, skiing, golfing and public beach. Bright and clean with many recent upgrades including shingles, septic, hydro service, insulation and new high efficiency oil furnace all within the last 2-3 years. There is also a single detached garage and a two storey barn/storage building.	 Barry Line Road - \$159,900 Tastefully decorated starter or retirement home on a level, 1.49 acre private setting. Features include master bedroom with 4 pce. ensuite and walkout to deck, central air & vac, pine accents, 3 pce. bath, full, partial basement, drilled well, storage building and carport.
 Linda* Baumgartner & Troy Austen Haliburton Office 457-1011 ext. 231	 Gooderham General Store - \$84,900 Commercial building with living quarters. large storefront with good size commercial space at the back of the building. main floor office. hardwood floors, upgraded electrical and new forced air propane furnace. 3 bedrm apartment on the second floor with large bedrms, bath, kitchen, diningroom and livingroom. some tlc needed.	 Stormy Lake - \$729,000 Timberframe cottage/waterfront home. 160' shoreline. Deep swimming off the dock & a sandy area. Maple floors throughout the main level with custom railings imported from Italy & a cherry staircase. W/o to private deck from master bedrm with a 3pc ensuite & large walkin closet. Full w/o basement with a massive family room & large picture windows provides a pretty view of the lake. 4 bedrms in this 3400 sq.ft. cottage, and 2 storey bunkie.
 Lynda Litwin Minden Office 286-2911 ext. 35	 Haliburton Village Home - \$233,900 Free Internet. Rental income from internet tower, 3 bedroom home with walk out basement, screened in porch, studio over garage +++ so much more. Call Lynda Litwin to view this home	 South Lake Home - \$399,900 Custom kitchen, huge dining and entertainment area, sunken living room, walk out to lake, level lot, triple garage with workshop. Only 5 minutes to Minden. Call Lynda Litwin to view this home
 Lisa Mercer Minden Office 286-2911 ext. 46	 Retreat Property - \$138,000 Great two bedroom retreat property. Sit in the screened in porch and listen to the babbling brook that runs along the property line. Boat from the shared water front lot on Salerno lake all day. Walk the year round road and enjoy the great outdoors. Call to book a viewing appointment.	 Lots for Sale - \$34,900 & \$29,900 Two Great building lots just south of Minden. The lots run between Highway 35 and seasonal road, Starlight Road in a neighbourhood of cottagers and some year round residents as well. Call for more information on other lots that are also available.



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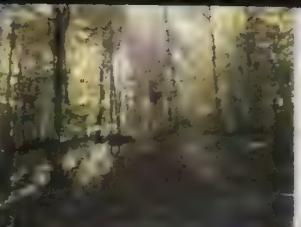
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Vacant Lot - Sandford Court - \$59,900
Beautiful 2.69 acre parcel with 529' frontage on Sandford Court. This 2.69 acre parcel is relatively level with mature trees and forest feel. Private yet close to town. Seller is a registered Real Estate Sales Representative. Contact LB office for clauses.

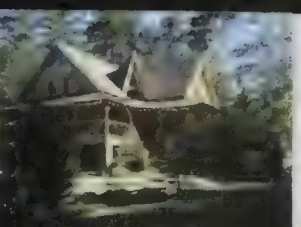


Vacant Lot - Sandford Court - \$99,900
Private estate lot (5.5 Acres) located in newer subdivision in village of Haliburton with spectacular view of both Grass & Head Lake. Conveniently located close to Sir Sandford Fleming College and shopping area. Cleared site, drilled well, driveway and septic approved.



Marilyn Hawley
Haliburton Office
457-1011 ext. 237

Thinking of Listing for Spring?
Toronto Cottage Life Show
is March 26, 27 & 28
Call me now to have your property included!



Redstone Lake - \$2,800,000
Luxury retreat on spectacular Redstone Lk combines lake frig on quiet bay w/absolutely private gorge & tranquil river view. Extensive & innovative docking systems & entertainment decks plus 360 degree deck on main cottage enhance outdoor enjoyment. Incredible log home with superior custom & artistic design features inside & out add to your relaxation. Incl separately deeded lot with charming 3BR luxuriously appointed guest cabin with covered post & beam porch, 2 fp's & screened room plus a 2000sf detached.



Marj & John Parish
Haliburton Office
457-1011 ext. 226



Eagle Lake Waterfront Lot - \$215,900
105 Feet of Sand Frontage, Southern Exposure, Year Rd Twp Paved Parsons Rd., Minutes to Sir Sams Ski Resort!



Semi Private Lake - \$495,000 + GST
4400 Feet of Frontage, Sand Shoreline, 190 Acres, Development Potential! 4 to 5 Lots! Year Round Twp Rd. 15 Minutes to Haliburton!



Melanie Vigrass
Minden Office
286-2911 ext. 40



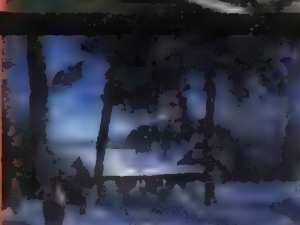
Minden Commercial Opportunity - \$229,000
With commercial zoning, 2100 sq. ft. on the main level and a large 4 bdrm. /1.5 bath apartment upstairs, this property is waiting for a self-starter who wants to run a business. This property has a large paved parking lot, additional land and is conveniently located close to the public school, the arena, the curling club and the cultural centre. Call me for more details.



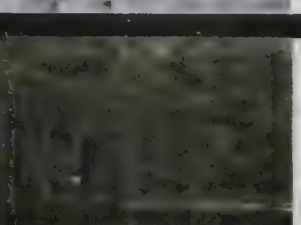
Minden Home - \$269,000
1750 sq. ft. on main level with partially finished walk-out basement. Formal dining room & living room, plus a dinette and sunroom. Main-floor master bedroom w/ an ensuite & Premier bathtub. Two more bedrooms on this level share a full 4 piece washroom. Downstairs - large rec room, cedar bathroom, sauna, and a hobby room, along with an office and storage. Other features include: attached double garage, hardwood floors, propane fireplace, propane stove, c/air and central vac.



Peter* Brady
Haliburton Office
457-1011 ext. 234



Best of Both Worlds - \$529,000
Dream Chalet on fabulous Eagle Lake waterfront. Make sure to see this large open concept, 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 4 season home with breathtaking views, sand beach, a walk to the first chairlift. Only \$529,000. Call Peter Today!!



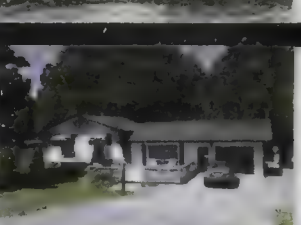
Only 3 Left! - \$269,000
Last chance to own and build your dream 4 season castle on Eagle Lake! Almost 5 acres of great wilderness, wildlife and waterfront. Close to store, ski hills, spa & Rhubarb restaurant. What else could you ask for? Only \$269,000. Call Peter now for building designs and estimates. Ask Peter about your private 8+ acre compound on 660+ feet of sand.



Ted Vasey
Haliburton Office
457-1011 ext. 223

Lots for Sale
Lipsy Lake - 589 ft. frontage - 15 acres - sand shoreline - \$499,000.
Hwy #35 - Boshkung Lake - 159 ft. frontage - 1.13 acres - sand beach access - \$79,000.
Gull River - Wondering Lane - 100 ft x 648 ft - 3 lake chain - \$89,000.
Loon Lake - deeded access - 496 ft. x 2.22 acres - sand beach - \$42,500.
Tom Bolton Road - 300 ft x 299 ft - 2.06 acres - \$22,900.

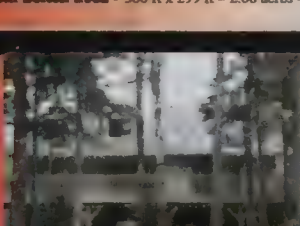
Acreage for Sale
Kashagawigamog Lake Road - 114 acres - \$109,000.
Tom Bolton Road - 98 acres - \$95,000.



Minden - 12229 Hwy #35 - \$149,000
Well maintained home on the edge of Minden - 1600 sq. ft. of living space - 3 bedrooms - 2 bathrooms - walkout basement - attached garage - municipal water - 147 frontage / .48 acres



Terry Carr
Haliburton Office
457-1011 ext. 236



Minniecock Lake - \$799,999
Luxury and privacy. Quality built 3 bedroom, 3 bath cottage w/ sleeping loft & bunkie on 2.43 acres w/ 229 ft waterfront. Enjoy the unique wood-fired cedar hot tub at the waterfront then come inside to the spacious sauna. Nexstone and Mabec siding, sun-tunnel solar tube skylights, and cathedral ceilings are just a few of the special qualities of this cottage. Loads of parking and a pad in place for a garage. Cottage is wired for a generator.



Kushog Lake Area - \$225,000
This 4 season home or cottage is perfectly located to give you a view of beautiful Kushog Lake! This bright 3 bedroom, 2 bath home offers a large kitchen/dining area and great living room with oak cabinetry, pot lights, and a front porch for hours of relaxation. Located on 2.13 acres, partially wooded, with tonnes of privacy.



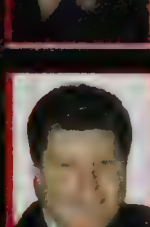
Tom & Gail Tempest**
Minden Office
286-2911 ext. 41



Bungalow - \$249,000
Very well built ranch style three bedroom bungalow in an area of fine homes!! Close to school, hospital and all amenities. Nice open concept design with sunroom, main floor laundry room, large master bedroom with ensuite bath, two car attached garage, paved drive and a full finished basement with two guest bedrooms, family room and 2 pec. bath. Level, landscaped corner lot. 'Generac' generator system for power outages; hardwood floors with porcelain tiles in entranceway & kitchen. Plus more.



Executive Listing - \$172,500
This two bedroom bungalow with full walk-out basement is situated on a very private and nicely treed 5 acre lot with approximately 200 feet of waterfront on Drag River. The rail trail nearby offers miles of cycling, hiking and snowmobiling enjoyment. Oversized septic, drilled well, large deck and much more! Gorgeous level, landscaped corner lot. 'Generac' generator system for those inevitable power outages; hardwood floors with porcelain tiles in entranceway & kitchen. Plus more.



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Near Gelert - \$59,900
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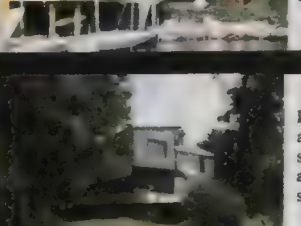
Living By The Lake - \$379,900
A gem! Renovated throughout, lots of wood interior, open concept cottage AND a spectacular boathouse overhanging the lake WITH a finished guest cabin and screened in sunporch to capture a sense of "living by the lake"! This property has a spectacular view over South Bay of Haliburton Lake and offers great swimming, boating and fishing opportunities. Asking \$379,900



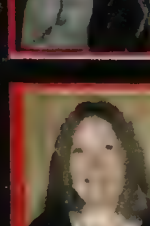
Rick* Forget, Iona Fevreau & Mary Hamden
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Highland Grove - \$149,000
Large family Home Potential or Home with Home based business. This large building with over 3700 sq. ft. of space offers. Lots of potential. Small shed and small 2 storey Barn on property for extra storage. Presently Highland Grove General Store. Business not included with purchase price.



Wilbermire Lake - \$289,900
Large older farm home on 1.86 ac with 300' sandy lakefront and south/western exposure. 4 bedrooms, dug well, septic & spacious enclosed porch. Includes attached 2 bedroom apartment with 2nd kitchen, bath, and sitting area. With some TLC this would be great for a large family and friends.



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Healthy Eating at Schools Mandatory by September 2011

Zoe Cittern

Staff Reporter

With television programs such as Jamie Oliver's School Dinners which aired on the Food Network in 2009 and with the series set to re-launch in American schools on ABC in 2010 it is becoming increasingly clear to the public and school age parents that healthy eating and successful learning go hand in hand.

According to the Journal of School Health, students who ate healthy and reduced their fat intake performed better at school. While parents may be able to control what their children eat at home it isn't as easy to monitor what they purchase at school and with unhealthy eating options available at schools across the province it becomes easier for children to choose the junk food route especially if that's all that is offered.

Not only does junk food affect behaviour but also obesity. Twenty-eight per cent of Ontario children between the ages of two and 17 are overweight or obese putting them at risk

of diseases such as diabetes. Less than half of Ontario kids ages 12-19 eat the recommended daily minimum of fruits and vegetables. Obesity costs the Ontario health care system approximately \$1.6 billion per annum.

However an action has been put in place to break the circle of unhealthy eating and ensure kids are given the best start possible. It was announced last week that the Ontario School Food and Beverage Policy will become mandatory beginning September 1st 2011 across the province. It will affect all food and beverages sold in publicly funded Ontario schools, from cafeterias and vending machines to bake sales and catered lunch programs. Candy, energy drinks and fried foods will be among food and drink products that will no longer be sold in schools. In addition, 80 per cent of the school menu must include products with the highest levels of essential nutrients and lowest amounts of fat, sugar and sodium. This includes fresh fruit, vegetables and whole grain breads. Interim

Director of Education Warren Rosborough says "this policy is an important step in encouraging our children to develop healthier lifestyle habits; we know that children who are healthy learn better and more effectively."

A team from Trillium Lakelands District School Board will attend ministry training about the new policy in February and additional training and support for schools and principals will occur in the board this spring.

However schools in the county have already been implementing healthy eating choices before the mandatory policy was even announced. Firstly the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit has worked with local schools to increase healthy eating amongst students. The Food for Kids Program has been a great success which delivers healthy snacks into elementary schools such as Stuart Baker and J.D Hodgson. The Health Unit is also represented on the nutrition committee on the TLDSB. Rosie Kadwell, public health dietician is chair of the 'Eat Smart Committee'

at Haliburton High School which is derived of students, teachers, a parent representative, the principal and the cafeteria. Kadwell states that "the idea of the committee is to educate the school body on healthy eating, they have already put programs into place such as a salad bar and they work closely with the cafeteria so students have healthy food choices. They also promote healthy food and try and make the prices as reasonable as possible." In the spring they will commence a week long initiative called Re-think your Drink which will promote a healthier way to drinking and to encourage students to switch to water, milk or 100 per cent fruit juice. Kadwell says that "healthy eating has always been something that individual schools have been working towards already but it's now great that it's at a provincial level."

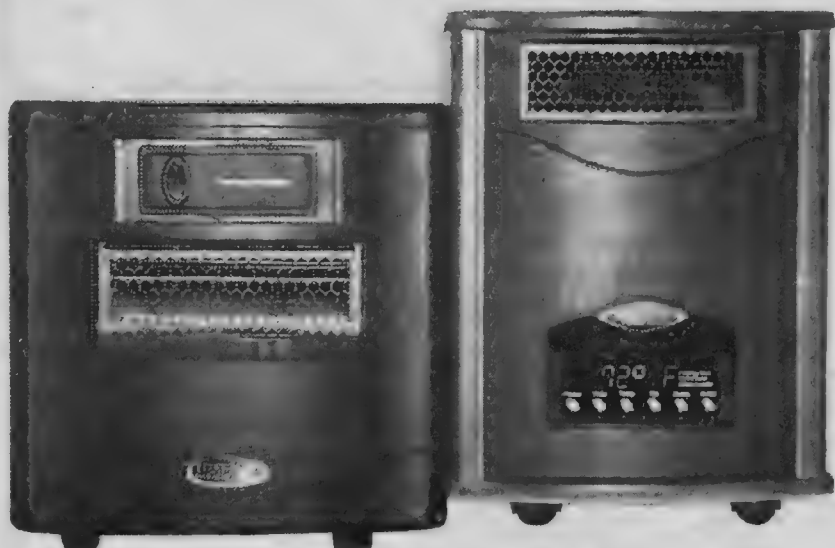
Aramark, the food service provider for the Trillium Lakelands School Board schools has for a number of years been implementing healthy food choices into the county's schools. At the High School a program called Fresh Simple Your Way has been running since September 2009 but has been there in different forms for the past three years. Chris Bishop, Aramark district manager says "we're constantly switching foods over to get away from students buying French fries and all the meals from the Fresh Simple Your Way Program are designed to meet the daily requirements of the food guide. We offer a customisable steam table which offers foods like pasta and stir fries. From 2006-2008 purchases of French fries within the TLDSB decreased by 50 per cent and milk purchases were driven up almost 100 per cent in the last three years. Our goal is to come up with recipes that meet nutritional requirements and that students can afford." Chris will shortly be introducing an Asian style noodle bowl which stands at \$2.99 compared with the \$3.75 for poutine: hopefully it'll be no contest to what students decide to choose. Aramark teamed up with Dairy Farmers of Canada and brought in milk vending machines a year and a half ago into all Trillium Lakelands schools which hold yoghurt, cheese and crackers, milkshakes and milk so even after school is over accessible and nutritious products are available to them.

With food companies like Aramark and initiatives by the Health Unit already providing healthy and nutritious meals into schools in the county it won't be such a shock to students when the Ontario School Food and Beverage Policy becomes mandatory in 2011. ■

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Banish Your February Blues and Support the Work of the YWCA

By Mark Arike

Blues Concert, Art Auction Part of Fundraising Efforts for Women's Shelter and HERS

No woman should have to fear for their life or for the safety of their children. The sad truth, however, is that more than 50 per cent of Canadian women will experience abuse at some point in their lifetime – and that's just one of the many grim statistics revealed in a 2009 YWCA national report.

But amidst the darkness and tragic circumstances many of these women face, there is a light at the end of the tunnel, says Laura Redman, event developer for the YWCA of Peterborough, Victoria and Haliburton. And that light – although hard for many women to notice – emanates from the YWCA.

"Here in Haliburton, we call our services, 'A Turning Point for Women', and for the last 24 years, our staff has been offering support services, crisis intervention and advocacy to women in this county," said Redman.

Since the YWCA is a not-for-profit organization, it is in constant need of donations and other forms of funding.

Over the past couple of months, Redman has been busy preparing for "Banish the Blues" – an upcoming fundraiser that will feature the groovy tunes of Canadian blues artist Rick Fines and Suzie Vinnick under the roof of the Pinestone Resort. Funds that are generated from the Feb. 13 evening event will go to support YWCA's local women's centre and the Haliburton Emergency Rural Safespace (HERS).

But that's not all. In the time leading up to the event, Redman has rounded up some of the county's creative folk to participate in an artsy project in hopes of raising even more funds.

"I'm really happy with the success we've had in the little we've had to work with," said Redman of the project she thought of titled "Alter an Image and Help to Alter a Woman's Life."

When Redman started the project she needed to find an image that would reflect the themes she had in mind. After getting in touch with local photographer Barbara Koch and seeing her work, a photo that had all the right elements was quickly chosen.

"It was everything she was looking for," said Koch she snapped on Hwy 118, on the sharp bend that leads minutes after a storm rolled through the county, the image darkness to light: the sun peaks its way through the clouds the ground and barn depicted still remain in the shadows.

"The darkness symbolizes the current situation of a woman facing violence while the light is for hope, hope that the YWCA can give them," Redman explained.

With a photo to use a call was put out to artists to participate.

"It was up to them to interpret or 'respond' to the photo in whatever way they wanted to," Redman said of the challenge, which is conducive to the work of virtually any artist, regardless of their medium.



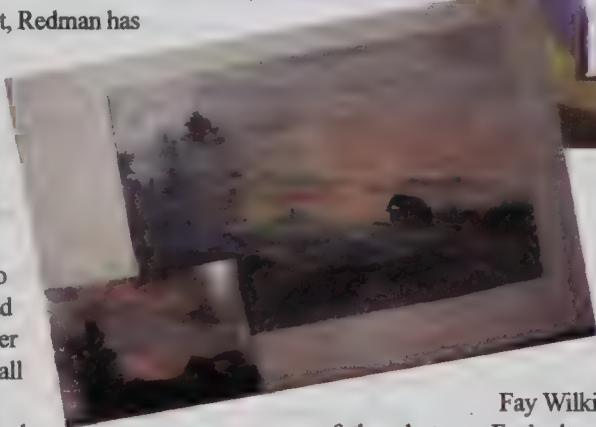
An original monoprint piece with watercolour by visual artist Shelley Beach. It was made by painting watercolour onto a lexan plate, which was then transferred onto paper using an etching press. Shelley then further painted into the image using watercolour.

Thus far, the six artists who have stepped up to alter the image and give away their work include: Shelley Beach, Kim McBrien, Marc Shroetter, Sandy Sloten and Robert Van Nood.

Each altered piece will be up on display at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre for viewing from Feb. 4 - 11. Those looking to take the art home will be able to place their bids during the live auction segment of the night at the Banish the Blues fundraiser.

Tickets – which include a buffet dinner – can be purchased for \$50 per person by calling 705-286-1942 or at the following locations: YWCA in Minden, Organic Times, and Henwood's Variety & Sweet Shoppe.

To learn more about the work of the YWCA visit www.ywcapeterborough.org. ■



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Highland Storm Atom A's Liftlock Champs



As reported last week, the Highland Storm Atom A team won the annual Peterborough Lift Lock tournament: here's a pic of the team together with their coaches.. Back from Left: Chad Burden Trainer, Tim Keefer asst. coach, Barry Boice asst. coach, Mike MacNaull Coach. - Left to right - Standing Back Row from left: Ethan Keefer-Defence Andrew Hall-Defence Max MacNaull-Defence Chris Thompson-Wing Josh Boice-Defence Matt Wilbee-Center - Front Row, from left: Chase Burden-Center Nolan Flood-Wing Paydon Miscio-Wing Owen "Smitty" Smith-Wing Josh Bellefleur-Goalie ■

Minden Winter Mixed Bonspiel

Submitted by Steve Robson



Walker Curling Champion

... from pg. 1

interview with Rauter on TSN after the win Jake commented with a wide grin that "we have a lot of brains on my team". Rauter pointed out that in the game's two timeouts the Coach's decisions led to five Manitoba points. So it's another tribute to Jake Walker's cool that he rode confidently through these difficulties, kept his focus, and got the win.

Jake grew up in Minden, the son of Corey and Nancy Walker and the grandson of Bruce Armstrong and the late Lionel Walker. He attended Haliburton High, where he was coached by Tom Dibblee. He's curled almost all his life, with buddies Ed Cyr, Rob Ainsley, and Connor Duhaime among others, who've also gone on to stellar junior careers. This year is Jake's last year of junior eligibility, so after the Worlds he'll have some serious decisions to make.

"You have a couple of choices if you want to pursue curling on the adult professional level. A lot of junior curlers catch on with existing rinks with more experienced curlers and try to make it that way. Or we could try and keep this rink together and make it on our own. We'll try and make some decisions later this spring." A complicating factor is Jake's academic career as a second year electrical engineering student at the University of Waterloo. "I've had to drop out of this term, in fact. There was simply no way I could continue with my academic work and pursue the national and international titles. But the university has its rules, which I understand, so I've let them know formally that I won't be back until the fall. And there's no penalty for that. I also understand that starting a pro career has huge time and financial implications. So that will be a factor in my decision as well."

Jake and his family also wanted to make sure to thank the local organizations and personnel whose support of his career thus far has been essential: his grandfather, Bruce Armstrong, The Monday Night Competitive League in Haliburton, the Monday Night Women's League in Minden, the Tuesday Night Men's League in Minden, Linda Baumgartner and Troy Austen from Remax Haliburton and the TD Bank in Minden.

The World Championships start March 2nd in Flim, Switzerland. Unfortunately, at this point there is no television coverage planned, but Jake's friends and family will be sure to keep Haliburton County informed of his progress. ■

Pictured far left: "C" division winners of the Bill Kulas-Re/Max Realty Trophy from left to right: Scotty Boyd (skip), Jane Boyd (vice), Jayne Kennedy (lead), Bert Kennedy (second).

Pic at right: "A" division winners of the Jug City Trophy from left to right: Patti Prentice (lead), Paul Prentice (second), Dana Kinsman (vice), Alf Trotter (skip)

On January 22rd & 23th the Minden Curling Club hosted its annual Winter Mixed Bonspiel. This event is the longest running bonspiel in club history having started in 1961 in conjunction with the Minden Winter Carnival. Some still refer to it as the Carnival Mixed Spiel even though the name was changed in 1996 after the demise of the carnival.

Next year will be the 50th anniversary. The Mixed Bonspiel attracts teams from Port Perry, Whitby, Uxbridge, Haliburton and Minden Curling Clubs. Most of the 16 teams are repeat entries. The two-day spiel began on Friday night with two draws and concluded on Saturday with four draws and the finals. The event was capped off with a banquet and awards presentations. Thanks to club volunteers Jack & Winn Taylor, Jim & Marian Gillanders, Ross Bryant, Pat Woodcroft, Iain Kay & Joyce Nilsson, Steve & Audrey Robson.

The "A" division and the Jug City Trophy winners were the Minden Curling Club team of Alf Trotter (skip), Dana Kinsman (vice) Paul Prentice (second) and Patti Prentice (lead).

The "B" division and Haliburton Highlands Copy Centre Trophy was won by the Port Perry Curling Club team of Joe Pollett, (skip), Bernice Pollett (vice), Gerry Clarke (second) and Judy Clark (lead).

The "C" division and Bill Kulas-Re/Max Realty Trophy winners were the Minden Curling Club team of Scotty Boyd (skip), Jane Boyd (vice) Bert Kennedy (second) and Jayne Kennedy (lead).

The "D" division and Coneybeare's Butcher's Shop Trophy went to another Port Perry Curling Club team skipped by Pat Mark, with Len Goreski (vice) Cheryl Szolopiak (second) and Willie Prescott (lead).

Many thanks to our sponsors, Jug City, Haliburton Highlands Copy Centre, Bill Kulas-Re/Max Realty, and Coneybeare's Butcher Shop. ■

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Algonquin Highlands Reviews Draft Budget

Liz Danielsen

Staff Reporter

Algonquin Highlands is getting a jump start on their 2010 budget discussions and, in an effort to capture an overview of their financial position, Council met with various department heads last week. From the discussions held over Thursday afternoon and all of Friday, it was evident that Council and staff are doing everything in their power to keep costs and rising taxes at a minimum.

Treasurer Sheila Griffin said that estimates at this point in time suggest a municipal tax increase of approximately 1.5 percent over 2009. However, Griffin was also quick to add that she is still waiting for a number of figures and Council will be reviewing the document again in March.

Last year, the municipality established an extremely tight budget when it came to their operations, but at the time Reeve Eleanor Harrison cautioned tax payers that increases would be inevitable in subsequent years. How things will play out this year still remains to be seen.

At the moment, the draft budget represents \$6,450,685 in expenses and \$3,337,205 in revenues for a net budget of \$3,113,480 to be raised through taxation. But as Harrison said, "It's very early in the process." One figure that stood out dramatically was the \$242,500 in legal fees, which is a 570 percent increase over last year's estimate. Council was silent on this amount, but it is no doubt included to cover continuing disputes over land values and easements required for airport expansion.

Harrison was very up front in saying that many of the necessary journal entries had not been completed resulting in incomplete year end figures for 2009. She referred to the disappointment voiced by several Council members over the fact that the draft budget was not complete, saying there had been extenuating circumstances given time constraints and the absence of one department head due to illness.

Harrison asked for Council's patience, adding that their budget was often not passed until April and the County would not have their figures available until early in March.

Griffin advised the Council members that they would be required to make a decision on cost of living increases for all of staff and Council during the meeting. Deputy Reeve Tom Gardner acknowledged that the cost of living had gone up and other municipalities had proceeded with a three percent increase. However, Gardner suggested that it should be a time of restraint and suggested a compromise two percent hike. Conversely, Councillor Carol Moffatt said she was not interested in making reductions affecting the staff. She said, "Let's see how this plays out," and Council agreed to leave this discussion to the end of this round of budget discussions.

Recreation Coordinator Melissa Alfano detailed improvements to be made at the Dorset Recreation Centre and the Oxtongue Community Centre. Considering the substantial renovations planned for the Oxtongue Centre, Harrison voiced concern that the revenue from the centre did not warrant the extent of proposed expenses. While no cuts were called for in this area, Council did request a spread sheet detailing the use and rentals of all of the centres over the last three years.

Discussions turned to the Dorset Tower and Griffin referred to a base estimate of \$50,000 to paint the tower and another estimate of \$75,000 to improve the tower road. Councillor Don Shortread suggested that the municipality's greatest liability was the road. Harrison referred to estimates to paint one of the county's bridges, saying that \$50,000 wouldn't touch the cost to paint the structure. Alfano was asked to follow up on earlier discussions with Jan McDonald, Chair of the Algonquin Development Corporation and Dorset Tower Coordinator Barb Kostenuk about investigating a grant application to cover the cost of painting the tower. Moffatt suggested that, as the tower represented economic development, the Council could consider applying for funds through the Southern Ontario Development Program. Alfano was also asked to look into the cost of road improvements with the Operations Manager.

Airport Manager John Packer reviewed the airport budget and his operational requirements as well as the emergency measures budget. Packer had originally included a used tractor/snow blower in his estimates for the airport, but the budgeted amount was removed given a similar request by the Operations Manager.

Packer also said that he would like Council to consider a pad for

a new row of hangers. He said, "We haven't developed any new hangers in the last couple of years pending airport improvements. I have three people who are asking for hangers under the old program (the applicant puts up an initial \$10,000) and the cost can be removed from the budget if the new runway proceeds. At that time they would be able to purchase their own property for

hangers." Although Packer fully justified the cost of the hangers, Harrison suggested that planning for them may be a bit too early, given the number of unknowns associated with airport development.

Under 'airport development' a single (estimated) \$50,000 was included in the budget.

According to the Treasurer this amount will cover the cost of financing on debenture borrowing if the municipality proceeds with the airport expansion project. By the time that this portion of the budget was discussed it was very late in the day and Council agreed to leave the estimates as they were, pending a full discussion at the March meeting.

Trails Coordinator Mark Coleman presented the Water Trails budget where revenues are expected to equal or even slightly exceed expenditures, even with additional staff. Coleman voiced concern about decreasing annual contributions from

must continue to maintain the roads to a certain standard, but suggested that the equipment purchase be projected over two years. Whetstone, however, confirmed that there would be no savings realized as the equipment purchase would come out of reserves. However, with the equipment in place there would be an annual saving of \$25,000 for contracted services. Shortread said, "It will get year round use and will be a worthwhile piece of equipment."

Because of the need to tender equipment out early, Harrison suggested that Council make a decision on the equipment purchase before the end of the meeting, given that they were not scheduled to hold further budget discussion until March. When considering that the municipality had spent considerable sums for contracted services for only a few weeks of brushing, at the end of the meeting, Council agreed to the purchase of both pieces of equipment recommended by Whetstone.

Discussion then turned to docks and landings. Whetstone included repairs at the Halls Lake boat ramp but Harrison said, "The docks and landings are always a concern to me. We seem to be reactive rather than proactive and repairs are complaint driven. The repairs should be geared towards the five year needs study." But Whetstone argued that his department is making progress and has continued to make improvements each year. "We're better than reactive," he said.

Council discussed the need for railings and repairs to the stone steps at the Log Chute. Harrison said, "If we're going to have an attraction and encourage people to go there, we must keep the area maintained." Whetstone said he was concerned about the hazards at the site and suggested that there should be a viewing platform and the precipice fenced. The area will be assessed and recommendations brought back to Council.

Fire Chief John Hogg presented a draft budget of \$577,000 that initially appears to be approximately \$25,000 less than the 2009 budget despite the addition of a full time training officer for a portion of the year. As this portion of the budget was only just being presented to Council and the Treasurer for their review, it was agreed to defer the Fire Department budget to March.

During discussions on the general administration budget, one addition was made that should prove to be a benefit to the general public. And that is a review and revamping of the website: Councillor Moffatt, who has often commented that the website is the bane of her existence, has agreed to head a committee to review the website and make recommendations for changes. Approximately \$10,000 is expected to be added to the budget to improve the site.

Discussion then turned to the issue of accessibility. Harrison suggested that this was an area that required a champion to ensure that the work is done. \$15,000 was budgeted for replacement of the front counter in the administration building which has been identified as a concern both for accessibility and violence in the workplace. Council left it up to the CAO to determine who will be responsible for accessibility within the municipality.

Clerk Angie Bird confirmed that this year the municipality will be reviewing their Official Plan. An estimate of \$15,000 was included in the budget to meet the requirements of the province and the county and any environmental investigations that may be required.

After a day and a half of detailed review, the Council finally got down to the two decisions that had to be made in January. The first was the cost of living increase and Harrison said, "We have always tried to keep in step

with the other municipalities, even though we are the only one in the County without a union."

Moffatt said, "We are nothing as a community without our staff and they have to absorb the cost of living." Councillor Griffin agreed, saying that they would have to cut corners somewhere else. Both Gardner and Shortread felt that two percent should be sufficient given difficult times and Harrison was required to break the tie for a final agreement that Council and staff would be allocated the three percent increase retroactive to January 1st.

The budget will be reviewed again on Friday, March 19th at 9:00 a.m. ■

"We're nothing as a community without our staff." (Councillor Carol Moffatt)



the Ministry of Natural Resources, saying that MNR is under pressure to increase claw backs. There are no major capital projects budgeted other than replacing the boat ramp and dock at the Frost Centre and purchasing a replacement boat. Outdated signage on the hiking trails will also be either replaced or upgraded throughout the year.

Expecting cuts to his substantial budget, Operations Manager Brian Whetstone came into the meeting packing a first aid kit, but Whetstone left relatively unscathed. With one exception, Whetstone had provided a basic operations budget to maintain existing levels of service. A single layer of tar and chip resurfacing has been included in the budget for Big Hawk, Clover Leaf and St. Peters Roads at an estimated cost of \$180,000 and double tar and chip resurfacing is planned for McClintock Road (from County Road 12 to Lower Fletcher) at \$180,000 and Wes Clark Road at approximately \$30,000.

The exception was Whetstone's request to purchase two pieces of equipment. The first was a small tractor/blower and utility trailer at an estimated cost of \$15,000 and the second was a tractor with a roadside brusher, larger blower and loader attachment at an estimated cost that could be as high as \$200,000. According to Whetstone the municipality spends at least \$25,000 each year contracting out roadside brushing, and the blower will serve as a replacement for the tractor/blower at the airport which had been requested by Packer.

Gardner commented that the only places to cut Whetstone's budget would be on the resurfacing projects or the equipment purchase. Councillor Diane Griffin felt the municipality

"It's very early in the process." (Reeve Eleanor Harrison)

Canning Lake Proposal a Tough Sell

Liz Danielsen
Staff Reporter

**"We're taking a difficult situation and making it better."
(Paul Wilson)**

Paul Wilson and Jayson Schwarz thought they were presenting a win/win proposal to the Minden Hills Council on January 14th, but even though the request to purchase a portion of an original road allowance generated a lot of discussion, the matter was deferred pending a legal opinion.

Wilson, a well known land surveyor and consultant, and Schwarz who is a lawyer with Danson Schwarz Reicht LLP, both represent Chris Andras. Andras wishes to purchase the Canning Lake property if encroachments, unauthorized structures and the need for setback relaxations can be resolved.

Planning Administrator Elinor Kernohan recommended that the request to close and convey a portion of the road allowance be denied and that all buildings be relocated to meet legal requirements. As an alternative, Kernohan suggested granting a lease option to the owner to allow the original cottage to remain on the road allowance.

Schwarz said, "I realize that road allowances are not normally sold, but I also realize that there are some exceptions under extraordinary circumstances." He went on to say that Andras was hoping to establish a family compound, but the only way it could work was to keep the original cottage in its present location, situated on the original road allowance.

"The cottage is in rough shape and needs significant work and to find out after the fact that the building is cut in half by the road allowance was very upsetting," he said. And that's not the only problem. A small 'honeymoon bunkie' appears to be encroaching on the neighbours shore road allowance.

Schwarz advised the Council that the existing owners had owned the property since the 1930's and many of the buildings had been in place since that time. He suggested that by conveying 33 feet of the 66 foot road allowance the municipality would not have to close the road allowance and the public would still have access to the water. He said that the neighbours had agreed to the sale of a portion of the road allowance and had waived any right to the other half.

According to Schwarz, Andras is more than willing to relocate the bunkie on to what would be their portion of the road allowance. This would resolve the encroachment on the neighbour's property. The main cottage will be replaced with a new cottage and according to Schwarz the property would be greatly improved, encroachments would be resolved, there would be increased tax revenues and public access would continue to the lake. "Everyone wins," he said. Acknowledging that it was a difficult situation, Schwarz said that this solution would work for everyone without special exceptions or setting precedent.

Councillor Bill Obee inquired whether a survey had been done for the previous conveyance and why it hadn't shown the encroachments. Wilson confirmed that there had been a survey showing all of the buildings, but commented that there must have been some confusion about ownership at the time. According to Wilson, the original survey was done in the 1860's and had not been available to the present owners. The properties were resurveyed 18 years ago when parts of the shore road allowance were being acquired, but as Wilson said, little attention was paid to details at that time.

A number of questions followed about the use of the original buildings and possible placement to bring them into conformity. Councillor Rick Ratcliff inquired if there were other road allowances leading to the lake. Wilson said he was unsure, but commented that Canning Lake was part of a chain of lakes where access was readily available.

Councillor Peter Oyler suggested conveying only the portion of road allowance that the small cottage was encroaching on, but according to Schwarz that would only work if there was sufficient room for setbacks. "Our intent is to solve a problem, not to just grab land."

Wilson told Council that they also had to find a suitable location for the bunkie. He described the land, which has a number of building constraints due to wetland areas and steep rocky slopes. Chief Building Official Ken Jones reminded council that two bunkies would not be allowed on the same property without a minor variance.

Ratcliff referred to Kernohan's suggestion of a lease, but Schwarz could not agree to that with the expansion work that is being planned. He said, "It would be like the same situation that has been in place for years and wouldn't solve the problem." He also said that his client, while appreciating the offer, would not find it acceptable. Schwarz said, "He would like to invest in the municipality."

Wilson commented that the developments had been in place for 60 years. "We're proposing to take an existing situation and make it better."

Council thanked Schwarz and Wilson for their presentation and subsequently agreed that the matter should be discussed in closed session. According to Clerk Cheryl McCarroll, when Council came out of their closed session, the members had decided that they needed legal advice prior to making a decision. So the proposal will be brought forward at a subsequent meeting. ■

A Perfect Fit: Dollars for Kids



From left: Judy Phipps, Food for Kids representative, Lynda Shadbolt, Suzanne Haedicke and Kathy Carey (absent – Heather Manusco and Katie Hammerschmidt).

Five local fitness instructors have raised \$1,105 that will be donated to the Haliburton County Food for Kids program. Food for Kids is a not-for-profit organisation that helps provide healthy, nutritious food to students so they can progress well with their studies and ensure they get the best start possible to their day. In December the instructors came together to teach fitness and yoga classes at Blue Sky Yoga Studio. Participants could provide as much money as they wished to attend the classes resulting in \$1,105 being raised for the program.

Lynda Shadbolt, owner of Haliburton Yoga, Kathy Carey of Kathy Carey Fitness, Zumba instructor Suzanne Haedicke and Heather Manusco who teaches shakti yoga therapies all came together to teach. Katie Hammerschmidt who owns BSYS and Haliburton Chiropractic donated the space; there was also a grand prize for anyone who took part in the classes.

School nutrition programs helped by Food for Kids provide more than 3,500 breakfasts or snacks to students every week in Haliburton County. Rob Stonehouse a volunteer with Food for Kids says "we salute the support of Lynda, Kathy, Suzanne, Heather and Katie and everyone who took these fundraising classes because it really is a perfect fit. The participants were able to be active while local students will benefit by having access to healthy food in school that will help fuel their learning." ■



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For week of: Feb 1st

Horoscopes It's in the Stars

BORN THIS WEEK: You have an uncanny gift for reaching out to all people and creating bridges of understanding among them.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your natural Arian leadership qualities make you the person others will follow in tackling that important project. But don't get so involved in the work that you neglect your personal life.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Aspects favor sorting through your possessions, both at work and at home, to start giving away what you don't use, don't need or don't like. Relax later with someone special.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) The issues are not quite as clear as they should be. That's why you need to avoid getting involved in disputes between colleagues at work or between relatives or personal friends.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You'll get lots of support from others if you own up to your mistake quickly and include a full and honest explanation. Learn from this experience so that you don't repeat it.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) There might be some early confusion over a major move, whether it's at work or at home. But once you get a full breakdown of what it entails, it should be easier to deal with. Good luck.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Creating order out of chaos, even in the most untidy spaces, should be no problem for organized Virgos. So go ahead and do it, and then accept praise from impressed colleagues.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Whether it's for business purposes or just for leisure, a trip might be just what you need right now. You would benefit both from a change of scenery and from meeting new people.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) While things generally go well this week, a romantic situation seems to have stalled. But you can restart it if you want to. Then again, maybe this is a chance to reassess the situation.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A meeting that was promised quite a while back could finally happen. So be sure you're prepared with everything you'll need to make your case sound convincing and doable.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A workplace blunder could create a problem down the line unless you deal with it right now to see how and why it happened. Don't be surprised at what you might learn.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) This is a good time to re-sort your priorities and see if adjustments are called for. Be honest with yourself as you decide what to keep, what to discard and what to change.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Letting yourself be bathed in the outpouring of love and support from those who care for you will help you get through a difficult period sooner rather than later. Good luck.

Super Crossword MUSIC STAND

ACROSS

- 1 Teatime treat
- 6 Thin coin
- 10 Nav. rank
- 13 Bother
- 19 Hook on a hawk
- 20 Klutz's cry
- 21 Jean- Godard
- 22 Fit for farming
- 23 Start of a definition of a perfectionist
- 26 Channel
- 27 Plead
- 28 Skeleton part
- 29 Elizabethan instruments
- 31 Yen
- 32 Relinquish
- 33 Occur earlier
- 35 To (perfectly)
- 36 El —, TX
- 39 Puppeteer Lewis
- 40 TV's "Street"
- 42 Part 2 of definition
- 48 WWII abbr.
- 51 Palm oil?
- 52 Aristocratic address
- 53 Duel tool
- 54 Metric measure

- 55 Relished a roast
- 56 Dismay
- 57 Chest material
- 59 Sun screen
- 60 Ulrich of Metallica
- 62 Caustic stuff
- 63 Ryan of "Boston Public"
- 64 Broke to smithereens
- 66 Thornfield governess
- 68 Part 3 of definition
- 69 Black
- 70 Sullivan's partner
- 73 — even keel
- 74 Heel
- 76 Impresses immensely
- 79 Confess
- 80 Helicopter part
- 82 Party present
- 84 Picnic pest
- 85 Authentic
- 86 Anapest, for one
- 87 Spanish title
- 88 Broadway letters
- 89 Prohibit
- 90 Part 4 of definition
- 94 Borscht ingredient

- 95 Diva Leontyne
- 96 Petty or Chandler
- 97 Stallion's sweetie
- 99 Mideastern kingdom
- 102 "The Ramayana," e.g.
- 105 — song (cheaply)
- 106 Casual cloth
- 107 School founded in 1440
- 108 Absorb, with "up"
- 111 "The Barber of Seville" heroine
- 114 End of definition
- 118 Carved a canyon
- 119 Sue — Langdon
- 120 — Linda, CA
- 121 Avid
- 122 Became rigid
- 123 Guitarist Paul
- 124 "— River" ('61 hit)
- 125 Be grateful

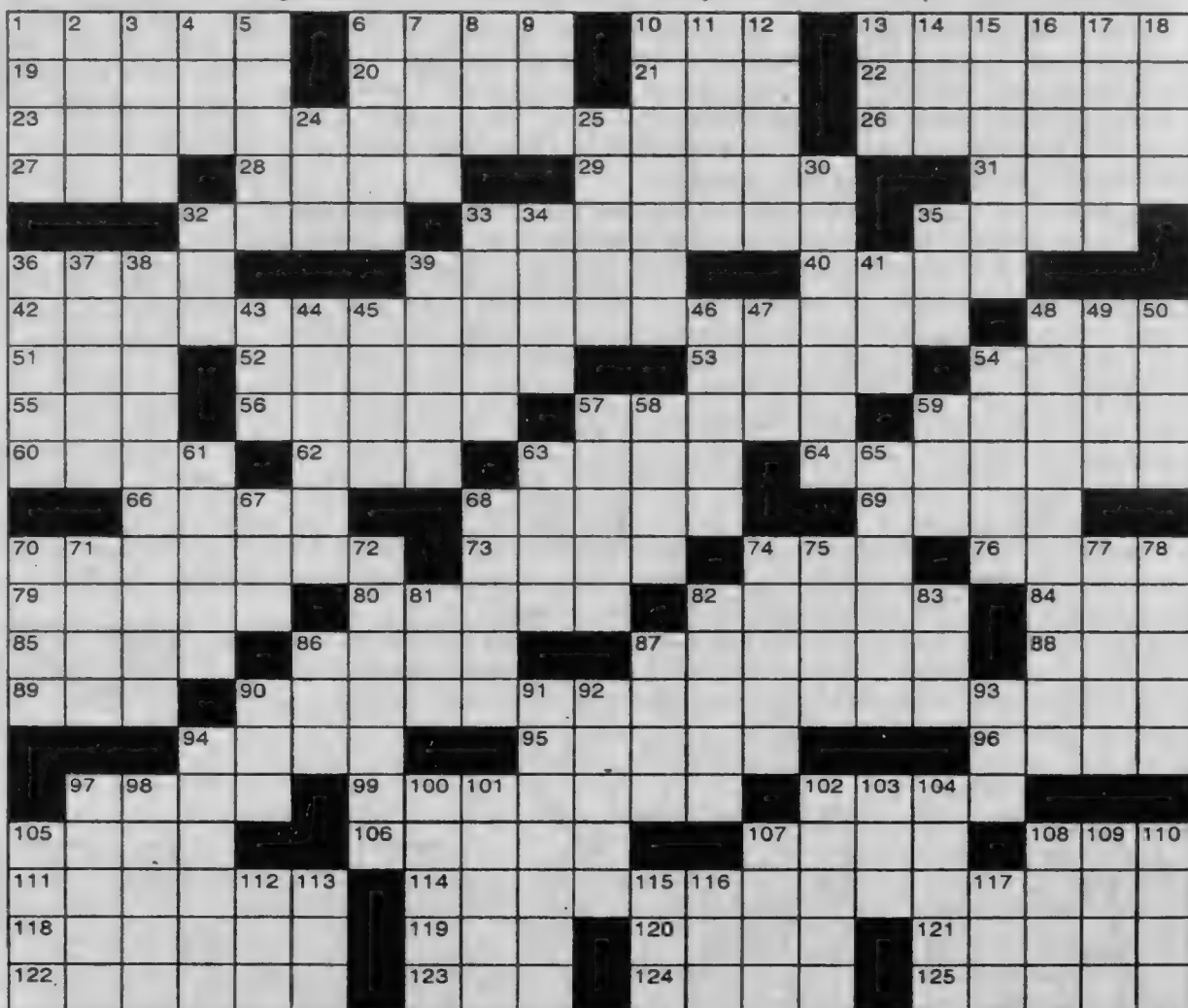
DOWN

- 1 Use a dirk
- 2 Drac's wrap
- 3 Couturier Cassini

- 4 Negative correlative
- 5 Follow
- 6 Metaphysical poet
- 7 Nebraska neighbor
- 8 Speedometer abbr.
- 9 "— Beso" ('62 hit)
- 10 Pianist Arrau
- 11 — del Este
- 12 Mid-size band
- 13 Contains
- 14 — deco
- 15 One in a million
- 16 Diminish
- 17 Pizza serving
- 18 Son of Adam
- 24 Time-honored
- 25 Office worker
- 30 "Georgy Girl" group
- 32 Pigeon English?
- 33 Med. professional
- 34 Unwelcome visit?
- 35 Donkey
- 36 Pansy part
- 37 "West Side Story" role

- 38 "The New Yorker" humorist
- 39 Where to find a plover
- 41 Positive vote
- 43 Singer Sumac
- 44 Steering device
- 45 Potter's need
- 46 Ancient Sanskrit
- 47 Mineral spring
- 48 Indecisive
- 49 Burn remedy
- 50 Firewood measure
- 54 One of the Aleutians
- 57 Chavez or Romero
- 58 "— go brag!"
- 59 Rocker Morrison
- 61 Astrologer Leek
- 63 Mrs. Jupiter
- 65 Skater Ito
- 67 Postal abbr.
- 68 Club creed
- 70 Apparel
- 71 Concept
- 72 Pulled a sulky
- 74 Hiawatha's transport
- 75 Declare
- 77 Join up

- 78 Abolitionist author
- 81 Aah's partner
- 82 Use
- 83 Across
- 86 "Pshaw!"
- 87 Vaudeville bit
- 90 Elfin
- 91 Revolts
- 92 Freddie the Freeloader, e.g.
- 93 Father Brown monogram
- 94 Pigtales
- 97 Boxer Archie
- 98 Fiery felony
- 100 Copper or cobalt
- 101 — fell swoop
- 102 Patriot Allen
- 103 Luau dish
- 104 Map feature
- 105 Worry
- 107 Admiral Zumwalt
- 108 Adventure story
- 109 Portent
- 110 Company car, e.g.
- 112 Born
- 113 Slap on
- 115 Shady character?
- 116 Leeds lavatory
- 117 Uh-uh



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Sweet Patooties Perform in Haliburton

It was the first gig of 2010 for Terry Young and Sandra Swannell of the folk band the Sweet Patooties when they performed at the Haliburton Highlands Museum last Friday for a sold out show. Terry said it was "a lovely start to the new year" and that they had played in Haliburton a year ago.

The Sweet Patooties have been together since 2007 although they met when they performed in the same band Tanglefoot years before. After Tanglefoot disbanded the pair took on their new project and it's blossomed ever since. Sandra describes their music as "blues and jazz though still a folk sound with quirky lyrics." She adds that folk music "is a world where anything goes, it's an outlet for creativity. I write to amuse myself and if the audience likes it then that's even better. A lot of our songs are tongue in cheek, there is always a message underneath the silliness though we still like to keep the songs really fun. We like doing what we do, its very light humoured."

They are currently working on their second album which they'll be recording in April along with a Christmas album. Sandra says that they "love touring, you get to visit so many great places off the beaten track from the viewpoint of the local folk and the people you meet are so wonderful. You learn about places you never normally would." The Sweet Patooties will be touring across Canada, the States and then onto England in the summer.

Terry points out that the band is "Greenacres for the millennium, our name harks back to the nostalgic days of the



1940s and 1950s." The band says they get inspiration from other songwriters who play offbeat non-commercial music such as Dan Hicks as well as singers like the Andrew sisters, Chad Atkins, Colin Linden and swing bands. The band played all originals and did covers of two songs one by Pat Benatar and David Lindley, titled 'Cat Food Sandwiches.'

Terry has had a long history with music and says he was "born into it, I was a high school music teacher and ran open stages at the school. Sandra is a very creative musician; she had a very interesting vision for the band. I'd say we're rural meets urban, country blues."

You can visit the bands website at www.mysweetpatootie.com. ■



Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

MAN FEARS WORKMAN WITH KEY MAY NOT BE ON THE UP-AND-UP

DEAR ABBY: We had a repairman in our home yesterday who needed to leave to go to the hardware store for a part. My wife told him: "I have to go to pick up my son, so here's my spare key. Let yourself back in." Abby, we do not know this man from Adam! He easily could have copied our key -- he was going to the hardware store, after all -- and returned to burglarize our home, or worse. We have three young children. I realize my wife was in a tough spot. I know I should have more faith in the goodness of humanity, but I feel she put our family at risk. I'm considering having my locks changed. Your thoughts on the matter would be much appreciated. -- PROTECTIVE IN LIVERMORE, CALIF.

DEAR PROTECTIVE: You should not have a repairman in your home at any time unless the person is licensed, bonded, and you have checked his references. If, heaven forbid, a home is burglarized, the owners should tell the police about any "stranger" who has been on the premises. And if you would sleep better at night knowing you had changed the locks as a precaution, then that's what you should do.

DEAR ABBY: I know thank-you notes are in order for wedding gifts, graduation presents and special anniversary gifts -- but can the practice be overdone? A woman in our group, "Bev," delights in sending thank-you notes for every little thing. She means well, but it makes the rest of us feel awkward. Example: One day she dropped by as I was preparing a tuna sandwich for lunch, so I offered her one. We ate them on paper plates with a cup of tea. A few days later, a thank-you note arrived, which surprised me. Abby, neither my mother nor I have ever sent or expected thank-you notes for casual visits. We're a group of older ladies who are just pleased to have friends who gather for lunch on birthdays or help each other out with small favors. We see and talk to each other often. I don't want to offend Bev and will reply in kind to her, but have told others a simple thank you in person or a phone call will suffice for me. They agree. What do you think? -- GOOD FRIENDS IN ARIZONA

DEAR GOOD FRIEND: Because Bev may not be aware of your feelings on the subject, I think you should also tell HER that in the future a simple thank you in person or a phone call will suffice.

DEAR ABBY: I have a question I can't ask of anyone but you. I am 84 years old, and I have been a widow for 10 years. I worked as a secretary all my life. I am torn about accepting requests from a man I used to work for to "come and visit" him. This is not an invitation for a date -- dinner, a movie, a drive. It's nothing but "a visit." This happened before when I was divorced and living alone. The "visit" consisted of hugging, kissing and sex. That's all. It made me feel cheap. Although I would love to be kissed and hugged by a man as handsome as George Clooney, I feel he is trying to use me. There is never any mention of a "date." Please hasten your reply and tell me how I should handle this. -- FEELING USED IN BELLEVILLE, ILL.

DEAR FEELING USED: The next time "Prince Charming" calls and asks you to pay a house call, smile into the receiver (which will make your tone warmer and friendlier) and tell him you'd be "delighted" to see him -- when he picks you up, takes you to dinner or a movie or even for a drive. And stick to your guns.

DEATH NOTICES



In Loving Memory Of
Norman Clements
Veteran WWII Airforce

Peacefully with his family by his side at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre on Friday morning, January 22, 2010 at the age of 84, as a result of a stroke. Beloved husband of Dorothy Clements. Much loved Dad of Beverley Cooke (nee Lewis). Lovingly remembered by his grandchildren Karen (Mike) and Laurie (Glenn) and by his great grandchildren Robert, Jeremy, Michael, Mitchell and Maxwell. Also remembered by his nephews Larry, Dale and Ron Clements.

Visitation & Memorial Mass

A Memorial Mass will be held at ST. ANTHONY'S OF PADUA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH 27 Victoria St. Haliburton, Ontario later in the Spring. Interment St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Cemetery, Haliburton. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209. As expressions of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation or St. Anthony's Future's Fund would be appreciated by the family.

www.communityfuneralhomes.com



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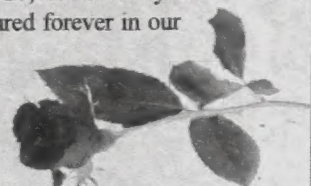
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In Memory of

Miscio, Annie

In Loving Memory of dear Mother-in-law and Grandmother who passed away January 27, 1993. As you were you'll always be treasured forever in our memories.

Sadly missed; Clara and Families



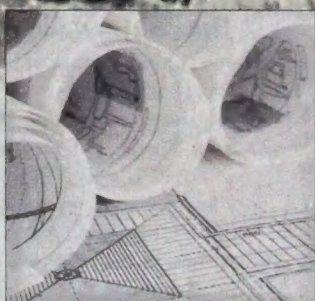
Darby Bayley Wins Winter Games Logo Contest



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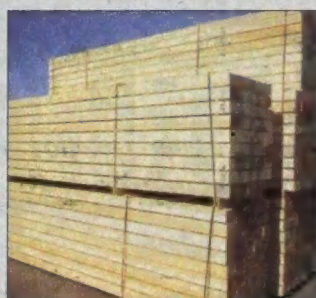
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The Games Organizing Committee of the 2011 Ontario Senior Games- Winterfest, is pleased to announce the winners of the design contest which was held to ask for logo ideas for the Games.

Close to twenty submissions were received by late November and after reviewing the submissions the Committee selected Darby Bayley of Minden as the winner and recipient of the first prize of \$201.10. Darby submitted the "sporting snowman" as her creative idea and the final design of the logo is both engaging and fun. Thank you Darby!

Runners up included an anonymous volunteer representing 100.9 Canoe FM, and April Martin from Haliburton. Runners up received prizes of \$120.11. The committee would like to thank all those that submitted design suggestions.

The logo will begin to appear in all communications, the Winterfest 2011 website, signage and promotion elements associated with the games.

The 2011 Ontario Senior Games - Winterfest will take place over three days in February of 2011. Haliburton County will be host to the more than 800 senior participants, coaches and officials who will compete in 10 events during February 15th to 17th. All competitors are 55 years of age or over and are shining examples of what a healthy active lifestyle does to improve health and your senior years.

The primary funding for Winterfest is from the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion with support provided by The County of Haliburton, Sport Alliance of Ontario and Ontario Senior Games Association. ■

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FOUND - On West Shore
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(Jan D)

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duplex, in town - designed
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your used firearms, bows
or anything hunting, fishing
related. Lowest prices in
Haliburton on automotive,
ATV, Snowmobile and
marine parts and accessories.
Window tinting and tree
removal. Located across
from Kozy corner below
Country Pickins! Open 7
days a week 8 am. Call
Chris or Ian at 705-457-
5334. (TFN)

Thank You

THANK YOU!!!

OVERWHELMING COMMUNITY SUPPORT

4C's Board of Directors wants to express and 'OVERWHELMING
THANK YOU' to Haliburton's caring and sharing community.
4C's Food Bank served 309 clients this past Christmas which
could not have been achieved without the generous donations of
this community. We can never put a true dollar value on all the
toys, books and teenage 'gift certificates'. Listing all the Churches,
Schools, Organizations, local merchants, Radio stations, Banks,
Construction workers and builders, Police Force, and many, many
individuals....we would easily miss someone if we dared to list
everyone.....we truly appreciate your support which is extremely
valuable caring for others. THANK YOU one and all.



Thank you very much for all
your support, kindness, cards,
phone calls and e-mails in the
sudden death of our daughter
and sister Donna Marie.

Greatly appreciated
John, Linda and Leigh Wood

Help Wanted

Kennis Powersports is looking
for a snowmobile / marine mechanic.
Preference BRP. Must have own tools and
customer service experience.
Wages to be negotiated.
Call Mike - 754-2000

Help Wanted

Pinestone Resort &
Conference Centre
is currently
recruiting for
the following

positions: Hostess - Runners - Bartender - Servers - Porters
- Front Desk - Housekeeping - First Cook - Second Cook -
Kitchen Steward.

Please forward resumes to: Human Resources, P.O. Box
809, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0, Fax: 705-457-3136

Super Crossword Answers

S	C	O	N	E	D	I	M	E	C	P	O	H	A	R	A	S	S			
T	A	L	O	N	O	O	P	S	L	U	C	A	R	A	B	L	E			
A	P	E	R	S	O	N	W	H	O	C	A	N	T	S	T	R	A	I		
B	E	G	U	L	N	A	L	U	T	E	S	I	T	C	H					
			C	E	D	E	P	R	E	D	A	T	E	A	T	E	E			
P	A	S	O		S	H	A	R	I		E	A	S	Y						
E	N	J	O	Y	T	C	H	A	I	K	O	V	S	K	Y	S	W	A	C	
T	I	P		M	I	L	O	R	D		E	P	E	E		K	I	L	O	
A	T	E		A	L	A	R	M		C	E	D	A	R		V	I	S	O	R
L	A	R	S		L	Y	E		J	E	R	I		S	M	A	S	H	E	D
			E	Y	R	E		M	U	S	I	C		I	N	K	Y			
G	I	L	B	E	R	T		O	N	A	N		C	A	D		A	W	E	S
A	D	M	I	T		R	O	T	O	R		F	A	V	O	R		A	N	T
R	E	A	L		F	O	O	T		S	E	N	O	R	A		S	R	O	
B	A	N		W	I	T	H	O	U	T	K	N	O	W	I	N	G	H	O	W
			B	E	E	T		P	R	I	C	E		K	Y	L	E			
	M	A	R	E		E	M	I	R	A	T	E		E	P	I	C			
F	O	R	A		D	E	N	I	M		E	T	O	N		S	O	P		
R	O	S	I	N	A		T	O	S	P	E	L	L	H	I	S	N	A	M	E
E	R	O	D	E	D		A	N	E		L	O	M	A		E	A	G	E	R
T	E	N	S	E	D		L	E	S		M	O	O	N		T	H	A	N	K

Help Wanted

Marcus Beach Cottages is seeking a reliable and flexible
maintenance person to work on a year-round basis. Marcus
Beach is a fractional property with 19 cottages on 43 acres
of land on Lake Kashagawigamog. The property requires
on-going maintenance for the cottages and for beaches,
docks and wooded property for all of the seasons.

This individual reports to the Property Manager and
needs to be dependable, in good physical condition and
able to work independently.

Duties would involve: water systems operation and
maintenance, waste recycling, cottage interior and exterior
maintenance, and property maintenance. The successful
person would be required to work approximately 32-40
hours per week; every other Sunday and some Statutory
Holidays. An Ontario Small Drinking Water Certificate
will be a requirement, either immediately or obtained
within a very short time frame.

Work is both indoors and outdoors, and a high degree
of initiative, observation and management of computer
spreadsheets and paperwork is required.

Interested individuals should fax their resume to 705
457 4907. Deadline for applications will be January
31, 2010. We thank all those who apply, but only those
chosen for an interview will be contacted.

Curry Motors'

Sport Utility Sale

Now is the time for a quality pre-owned SUV!

**Check
These
Out!!**

2007 CHEVROLET TAHOE LT:

MUST BE SEEN! COMPLETE WITH 5.3 LITRE V8, AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, AIR CONDITIONING, POWER WINDOWS, LOCKS AND MIRRORS, CRUISE CONTROL, POWER SUNROOF, LEATHER SEATS WITH FULL FEATURE FRONT BUCKET SEATS, POWER LIFTGATE, AFTER-MARKET FACTORY NAV SYSTEM, HEATED SEATS - 1ST AND 2ND ROW BUCKETS, FACTORY REMOTE START, ALUMINUM WHEELS, REAR SEAT ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM WITH DVD, AM/FM/CD WITH PREMIUM BOSE 9-SPEAKER SYSTEM, TILT STEERING, BALANCE OF GM POWERTRAIN WARRANTY AND MUCH MORE!

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OF THE WEEK**

\$28,995.00 *

**Lots of Vehicles To Conquer
The Snow! 4X4's & AWD
Give You Peace of Mind in
Canadian Winters!**

2009 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER 4X4:

COMPLETE WITH 4.2 LITRE 6 CYLINDER, AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, AIR CONDITIONING, POWER WINDOWS, LOCKS AND MIRRORS, CRUISE CONTROL, POWER DRIVER'S SEAT, ALUMINUM WHEELS, AM/FM/CD, TILT STEERING, BALANCE OF GM POWERTRAIN WARRANTY TO 5 YEARS OR 160,000 KM'S, AND MUCH MORE! PREVIOUS DAILY RENTAL U.S. VEHICLE

\$29,995.00 *

2008 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER 4X4:

COMPLETE WITH 4.2 LITRE 6 CYLINDER, AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, AIR CONDITIONING, POWER WINDOWS, LOCKS AND MIRRORS, CRUISE CONTROL, POWER SUNROOF, POWER DRIVER'S SEAT, ALUMINUM WHEELS, AM/FM/CD, TILT STEERING, BALANCE OF GM POWERTRAIN WARRANTY TO 5 YEARS OR 160,000 KM'S, AND MUCH MORE! PREVIOUS DAILY RENTAL U.S. VEHICLE

\$24,995.00 *

2007 CHEVROLET TAHOE LT:

COMPLETE WITH 5.3 LITRE V8, AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, AIR CONDITIONING, POWER WINDOWS, LOCKS AND MIRRORS, CRUISE CONTROL, POWER SUNROOF, LEATHER SEATS WITH FULL FEATURE FRONT BUCKET SEATS, HEATED SEATS, ALUMINUM WHEELS, FACTORY REMOTE START, AM/FM/CD WITH PREMIUM BOSE 9-SPEAKER SYSTEM, TILT STEERING, BALANCE OF GM POWERTRAIN WARRANTY AND MUCH MORE!

\$27,995.00 *

2007 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LS ALL-WHEEL-DRIVE

COMPLETE WITH 3.4 LITRE V6, AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, AIR CONDITIONING, POWER WINDOWS, LOCKS, AND MIRRORS, CRUISE CONTROL, AM/FM/CD, REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY, TILT STEERING AND MUCH MORE!

\$17,995.00 *

2006 CHEVROLET HHR:

COMPLETE WITH 2.2 LITRE FOUR CYLINDER ECOTECH ENGINE, AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, AIR CONDITIONING, POWER WINDOWS, LOCKS, AND MIRRORS, AM/FM/CD, REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY, TILT STEERING AND MUCH MORE!

\$9,995.00 *

2005 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LT ALL-WHEEL-DRIVE

COMPLETE WITH 3.4 LITRE V6, AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, AIR CONDITIONING, LEATHER TRIM, HEATED FRONT SEATS, POWER SUNROOF, POWER WINDOWS, LOCKS, AND MIRRORS, AM/FM/CD, REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY, TILT STEERING AND MUCH MORE!

\$12,995.00 *

2005 CHEVROLET BLAZER 4X4:

COMPLETE WITH 4.3 LITRE V6, AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, AIR CONDITIONING, POWER WINDOWS, LOCKS, AND MIRRORS, AM/FM/CD, REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY, TILT STEERING AND MUCH MORE!

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